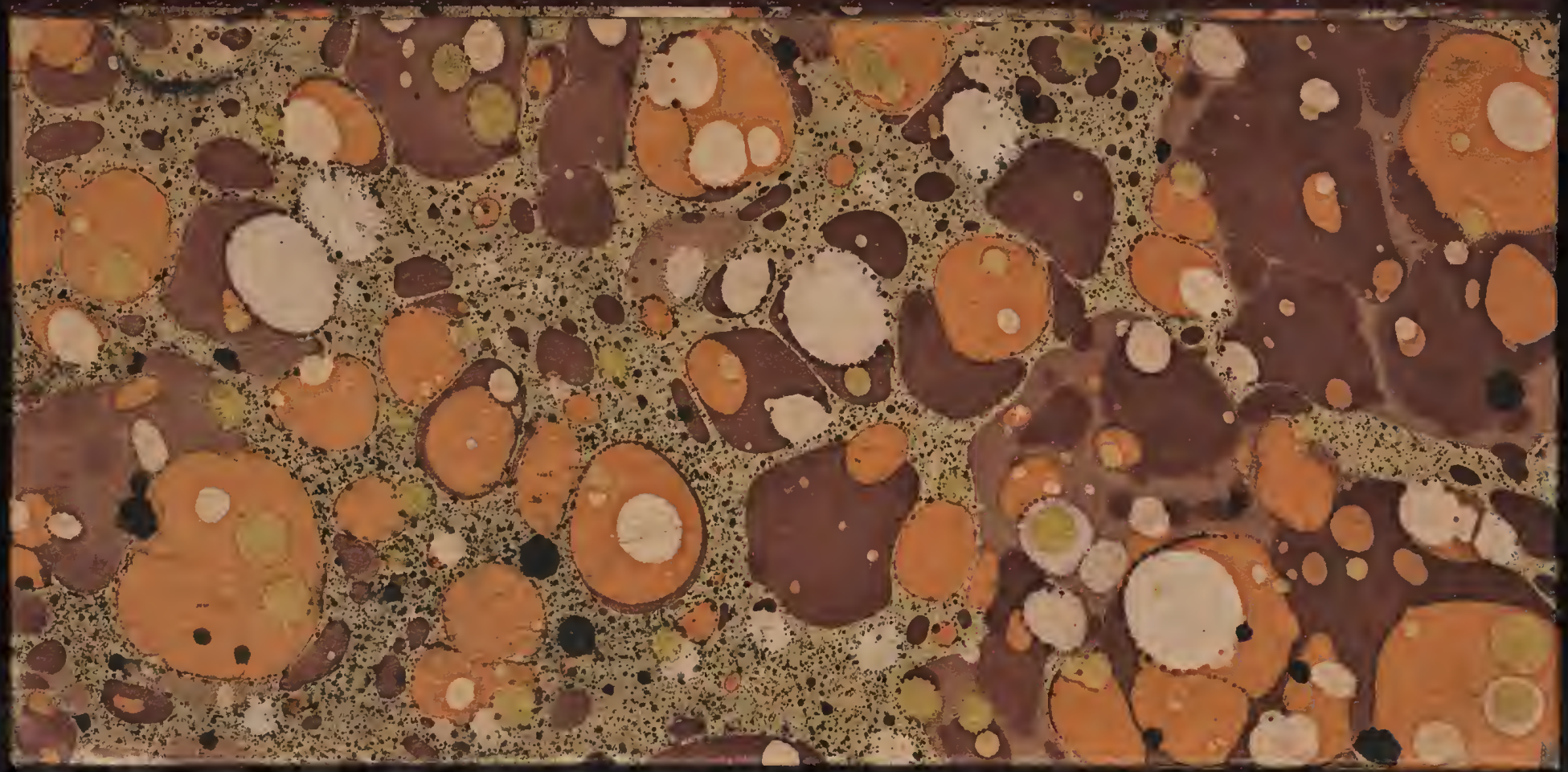

Graff

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 30, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 1.

Major *J. H. Taylor*, Assistant Adjutant General U. S. Army, having reported at these Headquarters, in accordance with paragraph III, Special Orders No. 198, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1873, is announced as Assistant Adjutant General of the Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. A. AUGUR,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 1, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 2.

I. The Court of Inquiry instituted per Special Orders No. 237, Headquarters Department of Texas, dated December 29, 1873, San Antonio, Texas, at the request of Assistant Surgeon *William F. Buchanan*, U. S. Army, to investigate and report upon the facts connected with certain accusations preferred against that officer, and to express an opinion on the merits of the case, and whether, in its opinion, any further action is necessary, has submitted the following:

FACTS.

First specification, first charge. The court finds that no turkeys were bought, at any time, from Mrs. Babcock, but also finds that some time previous to the month of April, 1873, three turkeys were bought by Dr. *Buchanan* for the use of the hospital, and paid for out of his private funds, and, to reimburse himself, the purchase was entered on voucher signed by Mrs. Babcock, the voucher containing other items for which Mrs. Babcock was paid; and further finds that amount of voucher was entered on "Statement of Hospital Fund for the month of April, 1873."

Second specification, first charge. The court finds that no chickens were bought of Mr. Christian Werley during the month of October, 1873, but that chickens were bought for the use of the post hospital previous to that date and paid for on the voucher referred to in that specification.

Third specification, first charge. The court finds that a number of pillow cases were made of washed flour sacks and submitted for inspection, and certificate on inspection report signed by Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan;* and the court finds that this was done by Steward Conrad Bock, or by his direction, without the connivance or knowledge of Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan.*

Fourth specification, first charge. The court finds that a number of bed cords were made and submitted for inspection, and the inspection report signed by Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan.* The court finds that this was done by Steward Conrad Bock, or by his direction, without the knowledge or connivance of Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan.*

Fifth, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh specifications, first charge. The court finds that a portion of the articles mentioned were picked up from the dumping ground and submitted for inspection; that Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* signed the certificate on inspection report; but further finds that the articles were picked up by Steward Bock, or by men acting under his direction, and placed with the articles to be condemned. All this without the knowledge or connivance of Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan.*

Sixth specification, first charge. The court finds that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* replaced a deficiency in unserviceable blankets by blankets belonging to himself, permitting those blankets to be disposed of as the Inspector should direct. The blankets were condemned to be sold at public auction, and Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* re-purchased them.

Seventh specification, first charge. There is no evidence before the court to sustain the allegation that two lamps were condemned, and that one of them had never been government property.

On the first charge. The court finds that the facts do not sustain the charge.

First and second specifications, second charge. The court has no reliable evidence to sustain the allegation that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* took the articles from the hospital store room to his quarters and converted them to his own use.

Third specification, second charge. The court finds that the only testimony to sustain the allegations contained in this specification is that given by Steward Bock, James and Bessie Norton. This testimony is deemed by the court so unreliable in its character that it cannot be received as evidence of the truth of the allegations contained in this specification.

Fourth specification, second charge. The court finds that sixty condemned pillow cases were taken from hospital to Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan's* quarters. There is no reliable evidence that any improper use of these pillow cases was made by or with consent of Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan.*

Fifth specification, second charge. The court finds that government medicines were used to put up 179 prescriptions, more or less, for medical treatment of citizens, but the evidence does not show that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* sold the medicines and received money for the same which he appropriated to his own use. The evidence shows that he was paid for medical services, and that no physician, in civil life, could be obtained by the persons under his treatment.

On the second charge. The facts found do not sustain the charge.

OPINION.

After due deliberation upon the evidence adduced, and due consideration given to its character and reliability, the court is of the opinion that, as respects the allegations contained in first and second specifications, first charge, Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* has committed, technically, an irregularity, for which he pleads custom. The court is, however, convinced that the act conveys no intention on the part of Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* to defraud the government or embezzle money; that no money was embezzled, and that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* acted in good faith and with no criminal intent whatever. In reference to allegations in sixth specification, first charge, the court is of the opinion that Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* committed an irregularity in replacing a deficiency in condemned blankets by those belonging to himself; but the court is convinced that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* had no intention thereby of defrauding the government, as the evidence shows that they were to be disposed of as the Inspector directed, were condemned to be sold, and re-purchased by Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan.*

The court is of the opinion that the testimony of Hospital Steward Conrad Bock, James and Bessie Norton, is not reliable, and not entitled to weight as evidence. The court is further of the opinion that the charges were preferred by Steward Conrad Bock against Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* in an insubordinate and malicious spirit. The animus of the accuser was apparent throughout the entire proceedings; that the interests of the service were not taken into consideration in their preparation. Though the evidence shows that Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* has committed irregularities, he seems to have acted in good faith, and neither the gov-

ernment or patients in post hospital have suffered thereby; and that the interests of the service would, in no way, be promoted by any further action so far as Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan* is concerned.

The court is further of the opinion that Hospital Steward Conrad Bock should be tried on the original charges preferred against him by Assistant Surgeon *W. F. Buchanan*, and additional ones covering his connection with this case, and his confessions of fraudulent transactions contained in his testimony. The court, in this investigation, has endeavored to give the accuser the widest latitude, both in the introduction of testimony and the examination of witnesses. But as he, in his statement, makes assertions that are intended to mislead the reviewing authority, it is thought proper that some reference be made to them. The complaints contained in that statement are uniformly unfounded. In no instance has the court interfered with his examination of witnesses, except when in the cross examination he endeavored to bring out new matter, and then the questions withdrawn by him were asked by the court itself. The court did not offer him the right of challenge, neither did he assert that right; and it is not thought that the circumstances would have justified the court in granting it even if he had asked for it.

II. The Department Commander, while not approving the proceedings of the court in their entirety, nor concurring with it altogether in its findings and opinion, nevertheless, after careful consideration of the subject, has come to the conclusion that the interests of the service will not be subserved by any further action in the case of Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan*, and, therefore, acquiesces in the recommendation of the court to that effect.

The action of the court in allowing Steward Bock to take part in the proceedings as accuser, was unnecessary, and he was allowed a latitude entirely incompatible with the dignity of the proceedings, and the interests of discipline.

With reference to the sixth specification to the first charge, the court should have inquired whether the blankets sent by Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* to be inspected for condemnation to fill a deficiency, had not been previously condemned, as specifically averred therein; and the court, in its finding as to the facts, should have expressed a positive opinion, either affirmatively or negatively, on that point. In either case, it is needless to say, that the mode adopted was not the proper one to avoid responsibility for missing articles; a Board of Survey should have been asked for.

The court is in error in its Opinion in calling the blankets in which a deficiency existed, condemned, though it does not make this error in its finding on the Facts. The missing blankets had not been condemned, but were awaiting the action of an Inspector; and though they were called unserviceable, there is no real evidence as to their condition.

Also, it appears in evidence that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* signed two vouchers—one in favor of Mary Babcock for twenty-two dollars and eighty cents, and one in favor of C. Werley for twenty dollars and fifty cents—both of which contained fictitious items; and, in neither of which cases, was the full amount paid to the persons named in the same. In the voucher in favor of Mrs. Babcock, appears at least one item in addition to the three turkeys—*nine* chickens—which were never bought from her and for which she was never paid, Hospital Steward Weed testifying that a portion of the proceeds of the voucher (precise amount not specified) was devoted to the

partial reimbursement of Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* for the sum of twenty-five dollars, which the latter stated he had expended from his own private purse, at different times, for the benefit of patients in the hospital.

Of the proceeds of the Werley voucher it appears only eleven dollars and fifty cents was paid to Mr. Werley for articles actually furnished—the remainder (nine dollars) being paid to Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* to reimburse him for the sum of four dollars he had advanced to purchase a sausage machine, and for a certain number of eggs, which it appears he furnished from his own hen-coop, at different times, to patients in the hospital.

Although the court finds that the Government was not actually defrauded by these vouchers, still the disbursing of money on such a plan would, if tolerated, and practised to any extent, have very injurious effects on the morals and discipline of the service. It not only involves the signing of fabricated vouchers by officers, but affords a precedent and excuse to the really dishonest, sets a bad example to enlisted men, and tends to impair in them and citizens, generally, the confidence that should be reposed in officers of the army.

It is also to be observed that, aside from the objectionable way in which the payment for the eggs was secured, Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* violated paragraph 1062, Revised Army Regulations, of 1873, in selling them to the Government at all. This very paragraph is printed conspicuously as a foot note on the same voucher, through the instrumentality of which Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* was reimbursed.

With reference to the fifth specification, second charge, while it is not established that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* received any money for medicines he gave to citizens not entitled to it, it is proven that in some instances at least he received money for services rendered at the same time the medicines were given. It does not appear in evidence, however, that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* took any measures, in view of the demand on him, to provide himself with private medicines for his own private practice, or looking to the re-imbursement of the Government for public medicines used in private practice. This is in contrast with the fact that he charged and received compensation from citizens for *his* time and labor, and took pains to reimburse himself when the Government used *his* property.

In regard to those allegations which rest on the unsupported testimony of Steward Bock, and the facts averred in which the court finds were performed by the latter without the knowledge of Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan*, it may be said, that even in this view of the case, Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* is really the one responsible for the property on his papers, and the certificates he signs; and an ordinary amount of care and scrutiny on his part would have made him so conversant with his own affairs, that he ought not to have been readily imposed upon by a subordinate.

In defense of the acts commented on, Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* pleads, in effect, the difficulty or impracticability, and often the impossibility of complying with the regulations, wherein, it appears from the proceedings, he violated them—also custom of the service.

Pleas of the difficulty and impracticability of obeying the regulations are futile; especially when they apply to the general carrying out of the same, and not to isolated instances, and are not worthy of consideration.

As to "custom of service," Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* seems to have confounded the customs, with the possible abuses, of the service. The latter should not be held synonymous with the former. Customs of service

can only be taken as precedents to follow, when intrinsically proper of themselves, and supplementary to the written law and regulations, on points on which the latter are silent, and not when in direct opposition to these. Moreover, the abuses which are imitated the Department Commander believes to be rather the exception than the rule.

It is to be hoped in future that Assistant Surgeon *Buchanan* will confine himself strictly to the regulations.

III. The Court of Inquiry instituted by paragraph II, Special Orders No. 237, series of 1873, from these Headquarters, is dissolved.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 9, 1874.

MEMORANDA.

Commanding Officer Fort

Sir: The General Commanding directs that you cause the following correction to be made in all copies of General Orders No. 2, current series, from these Headquarters, furnished you on the 5th inst., viz:

On page 4, in the 21st line, the year 1873 should read 1863.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. TAYLOR,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 11, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 3.

The Department Commander expresses officially his satisfaction with the result of a recent scout commanded by Lieutenant Colonel *George P. Buell*, 11th Infantry, which left Fort Griffin January 27, 1874; after a nine (9) days march, part of which was performed in severe and distressing weather for men and horses, the command encountered a band of hostile Indians (Qua-ha-do Comanches), attacked and practically destroyed it, killing ten (10) men and capturing sixty-five (65) head of stock. Lieutenant Colonel *Buell* mentions the following officers, enlisted men and Tonkawa scouts as being specially entitled to commendation, and the Department Commander thanks them for their good and soldierly conduct:

Captain *Philip L. Lee*, 10th Cavalry; Second Lieutenant *E. P. Turner*, 10th Cavalry; Sergeant *Joseph Alexander*, Privates *Dudley Davis*, *Sherred Helm*, *Jack Ellington*, *George Watts* and *Robert Marshall* of Co. G, 10th Cavalry; Privates *John Anderson* and *William H. Dural*, Co. D, 10th Cavalry; Corporal *Henry* and Privates *Anderson* and *Jack*, Tonkawa scouts; First Sergeant *Charles Butler*, Sergeant *Fleming Richards*, Co. G, and Sergeant *William Bulger*, Co. D, 10th Cavalry.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:
J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 27, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 4.

Captain *Herman Schreiner*, 9th Cavalry, having reported at these Headquarters, in compliance with paragraph XI, Special Orders No. 36, current series, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, is announced as Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence of the Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 11, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 5.

Captain *Asa H. Holgate*, Corps of Engineers, having reported in accordance with paragraph IX, Special Orders No. 60, current series, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, is assigned to duty as Chief Engineer Officer of this Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 12, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 6.

First Lieutenant *A. M. Raphall*, 11th Infantry, is hereby assigned to special duty at these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 20, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 7.

I. Paragraph I, General Orders No. 7, of June 12, 1873, from these Headquarters, is amended to read: Each officer performing subsistence duty in this Department—at stations where the amount received from sales of stores is in excess of disbursements—will, on the last day of each month after closing the monthly business, transfer to the Chief Commissary of Subsistence of the Department all funds for which they are accountable, except the sum of one hundred dollars and such other sums on hand required to be placed to the credit of the Treasury of the United States. The first transfer under this order will be made to date from the 31st ultimo.

II. When requisitions are made on contractors for supplies for subsistence stores, other than fresh meats, or for fuel and forage in the Quartermaster's Department, copies of the requisitions will be immediately forwarded to these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 24, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 8.

Hereafter no enlisted man serving in this Department will be tried by General Court Martial until the charges against him have been referred to, and acted upon at these Headquarters.

It is hoped that post and company commanders will make such effort and take such measures as will do away with the necessity for frequent trials, which, so far from being indicative of good discipline, suggest a want of interest in daily duties not at all conducive to the good of the service.

Good government is better shown by measures preventive of crime than by providing for its punishment.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 2, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 9.

Hereafter a copy of the Weekly Statement of Funds—required by Circular Letter dated Headquarters Department of Texas, May 6, 1873—will be forwarded every Saturday, by each Acting Commissary of Subsistence in the Department of Texas, to these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 7, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 10.

I. Non-commissioned officers who have surrendered as deserters under provisions of General Orders No. 102, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1873, should be reduced to the ranks by the regimental commanders, to date from the date of their surrender.

II. The attention of company commanders is called to General Orders No. 88, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1873. In mustering deserters for pay the muster rolls should state the *date* of last payment, *date* of desertion and apprehension, *date* and *No.* of order publishing trial for desertion, (if tried), dues to the soldier at *date* of desertion on account of clothing, retained pay, &c., unsatisfied fines and forfeitures under sentence prior to desertion, dues to the United States at date of desertion on account of clothing, tobacco, ordnance, &c.

The amounts due to or by the soldier at date of desertion should be separated from those accruing since his surrender or apprehension.

III. The Secretary of War decides that Acting Assistant Surgeons are not *civilian employes* within the meaning of that term as used in General Orders No. 13, current series, from the War Department.

IV. The proceedings of a recent General Court Martial show that the court excused one of its members from sitting in a case in order that he might act as counsel for the accused. Such a procedure is without authority of law or custom of service, and for the future is prohibited.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. A. AUGUR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 4, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 11.

Lieutenant Colonel *Charles H. Tompkins*, Deputy Quartermaster General U. S. Army, having reported at these Headquarters, in compliance with paragraph VIII, Special Orders No. 171, current series, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, is hereby assigned to duty at these Headquarters as Depot Quartermaster, and will report to Lieutenant Colonel *S. B. Holabird*, Deputy Quartermaster General U. S. Army, Chief Quartermaster of the Department, for instructions.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 28, 1874.

CIRCULAR:

The attention of officers commanding troops serving in the field in this Department is called to paragraph 464, Revised Regulations of the Army, 1863.

The field returns required therein should be forwarded monthly—made out on the regular post return blanks.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 17, 1874.

CIRCULAR:

The following communication is published for the information of all concerned in this command:

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *October* 3, 1874.

General:

I am instructed to inform you that the following changes have been made on the list of official newspapers of the War Department, viz: California, San Francisco, 'Spirit of the Times,' changed to 'Spirit of the Times and Underwriter's Journal.' Dakota, 'Bismark Tribune,' placed on the list. Georgia, Atlanta, 'New Era,' dead, 'Republican Advocate,' placed on the list. Indiana, Indianapolis, 'Taglicher Telegraph,' placed on the list. Kansas, Dodge City, 'Messenger,' placed on the list; Marysville, Marshall County, 'News,' placed on the list. Maine, 'Portland Advertiser,' placed on the list. Mississippi, 'Vicksburg Times and Republican,' changed to 'Vicksburg Times.' New Mexico, Silver City, 'Mining Life,' placed on the list. Ohio, 'Cincinnati Courier,' dead. South Carolina, 'Columbia Daily Union,' changed to 'Columbia Semi-Weekly Union.' Wyoming, Cheyenne, 'Daily News,' placed on the list.

You will please give notice thereof to officers acting under orders from your Bureau.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) W. T. BARNAND,
Acting Chief Clerk.

To the Adjutant General U. S. Army,"

* * * * *

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 27, 1874.

CIRCULAR:

The attention of post commanders is invited to the requirements of paragraph IV, General Orders No. 3, series of 1872, from these Headquarters, with which they will please comply strictly in future.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 18, 1874.

CIRCULAR:

To insure uniformity, Post Commanders in forwarding Surgeon's certificates of disability for discharge of enlisted men will hereafter endorse their views thereon on the 3rd fold, the 2nd being required for the action of the Department Commander.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUR:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 17, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 1.

I. The number of prisoners who escape from the guard-houses in which they are confined at posts in this Department renders it necessary that post commanders exercise greater care and vigilance in assuring their safe keeping.

II. Hereafter, prisoners sentenced to confinement at military prisons or penitentiaries, or under charges for desertion or similarly grave offences, whilst awaiting transportation or trial, will not be required or permitted to perform fatigue or police duty outside the guard house. The prison room will be inspected from time to time by the post commander, and all prisoners who are ironed will be carefully examined at least twice each day by the officer of the day or guard, and at the parade of every relief by a non-commissioned officer of the guard. Where prison rooms are not secure, prompt requisition for material to make them so will be forwarded, including wire grating.

III. There are few escapes of prisoners not due to carelessness or neglect, and, in each case which occurs, the post commander will make such thorough investigation as to insure the establishment of the responsibility therefor, in order that the person derelict, officer of the day or guard, non-commissioned officer or sentinel, may be held to account.

IV. Hereafter, regimental adjutants in this Department will, in all cases, perform the duties of post adjutants at their stations.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 22, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 2.

I. The following Pay Districts are established in this Department, viz:

FIRST.—The posts of Clark, Duncan and McKavett.

SECOND.—The posts of Concho, Stockton, Davis, Quitman and Bliss.

THIRD.—The posts of Richardson and Griffin.

FOURTH.—The posts of Brown, Ringgold Barracks and McIntosh.

II. Until such time as there are adequate quarters at Fort Concho for a Paymaster at that post, the Paymasters stationed at Department Headquarters will alternate in paying the first and second districts.

The Paymaster at Dallas will pay the third district, the Paymaster at Brown the fourth, except McIntosh, which will, until further orders, be paid by check.

III. Payments to troops will be made as above, without farther orders, and as soon after muster as practicable.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish such transportation, by stage or otherwise, as may be required, and the Subsistence Department will, when necessary, commute the rations of the escort if traveling by stage, at the usual rate.

IV. The Chief Paymaster will remain at Department Headquarters and make all local payments. He will see that funds are always in the hands of the District Paymasters to enable them to make prompt payments.

V. Notices of discharges will be forwarded at least one month prior to the expiration of the soldier's enlistment; those from the first and second districts to the Chief Paymaster; from the third, to the Paymaster at Dallas, and from the fourth, to the Paymaster at Fort Brown; excepting in cases where the soldier wishes to be paid at Department Headquarters; in this event it will be sent to the Chief Paymaster, direct.

VI. Post commanders will, hereafter, specify on their Bi-Monthly Inspection Reports compliance with, or neglect of, by company commanders, (by name), the requirements of paragraph V, of this order.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 24, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 3.

General Orders No. 21, Headquarters Department of Texas, series of 1871, is revoked, and the following substituted therefor:

I. The following returns and reports will hereafter be made quarterly to the Chief Quartermaster:

1. A return of quartermaster's stores—Form 27, formerly Form 23.

2. A return of clothing, camp and garrison equipage—Form 51.

3. Abstract "D" without vouchers—Form 28, formerly Form 24.

4. A consolidated report of horses, mules and oxen, made in accordance with General Orders No. 42, Quartermaster General's Office, Washington, D. C., October 26, 1868, and Circular Letter, dated Chief Quartermaster's Office, Headquarters Department of Texas, August 8, 1873.

5. A report of buildings, public or private; giving size, condition, location of post, the number of buildings erected, dimensions, and kind of material used in their erection.

6. A report of payments made on account of rail, river, stage and wagon transportation.

II. In addition to the foregoing, the following returns and reports will be forwarded monthly:

1. On the first day of each month, a personal report from all officers serving in the Quartermaster's Department during the month preceding, with rank, station and duties performed by each. Officers being relieved or assigned to duty in the Quartermaster's Department, will immediately send a copy of the order to the Chief Quartermaster.

2. A report of transportation orders (in duplicate) showing the number received, issued, canceled by error (these orders must accompany the report) and remaining on hand, together with a statement of the amount of transportation furnished during the month. Officers, on being relieved

from duty in the Quartermaster's Department, and having in their possession transportation orders, will transfer the same to their successors, taking the proper receipts (in duplicate) therefor, one copy of which will be forwarded for the files of the office of Chief Quartermaster; but in case of discontinuance of a post, the Quartermaster thereat will immediately transmit the orders in his possession to the Depot Quartermaster at this place, who will furnish receipts for the same.

3. An estimate of funds required for the use of the Quartermaster's Department, made in accordance with General Orders No. 68, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C., series of 1871, approved by the immediate commanding officer, to be forwarded so as to reach the office of the Chief Quartermaster by the first of the month preceding the month for which the funds are required.

4. A "Statement of Outstanding Debts," made in accordance with General Orders No 5, current series, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C., to be forwarded in time to reach the office of Chief Quartermaster by the last day of the month for which the funds are required.

5. Report of persons and articles hired, (in duplicate)—Form 1.

6. Roll of extra duty men—Form 3.

7. Account current—Form 7.

8. Report of expenditures authorized, incurred and paid from appropriation for Barracks and Quarters.

9. Report of expenditures on account of United States Post Hospitals.

III. The reports called for in sections 4 and 6, paragraph I, and sections 1, 2, 7 and 8, paragraph II, will be forwarded so as to reach the office of the Chief Quartermaster on or before the 15th of the month succeeding the month or quarter for which they are rendered, they being required for consolidation; the other reports to be forwarded so as to reach the office of the Chief Quartermaster within twenty days after the expiration of the month or quarter for which they are made.

IV. No purchases will be made by any Quartermaster in this Department, except on special authority from Department Headquarters.

V. All requisitions, estimates, applications, etc., will be transmitted through post commander, and should, by him, be revised and approved before being forwarded to the Chief Quartermaster.

VI. Estimates for quartermaster's stores should be made in triplicate, and in strict compliance with the instructions printed upon the face of the blank estimates. Estimates of clothing, camp and garrison equipage will be made out agreeably to Form No. 48, Quartermaster's Department, as published in War Department General Orders No. 7, of 1872, and transmitted in quadruplicate.

VII. Officers, in transmitting the reports and returns called for herein, will specify in each letter of transmittal the reports enclosed, and state such as their duties do not require them to make.

Quartermasters will use every means in their power to have these reports forwarded promptly.

When an officer is relieved as Quartermaster, all orders pertaining to the office should be transferred with the records of the office.

When blanks are not on hand all forms must be ruled out.

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Official:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 24, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 4.

So much of paragraph I, as establishes the Third Pay District, and paragraphs II, III, IV and V, General Orders No. 2, current series, from these Headquarters, as relates to the Third Pay District, is revoked.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 7, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 5.

General Orders Nos. 11 and 20, dated Headquarters Department of Texas, June 29 and December 13, 1875, is amended to read: a district to be known as the District of the Rio Grande, with Headquarters at Fort Brown, and embracing the posts of Brown, Ringgold and McIntosh, with their dependencies, is hereby established, and Colonel *J. H. Potter*, 24th Infantry, is assigned to the command thereof.

All official communications for superior Headquarters will be forwarded through the District Commander.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 1, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 6.

The attention of post commanders in this Department is called to paragraphs III and IV, General Orders No. 19, from these Headquarters, series of 1870, the requirements of which will hereafter be strictly complied with.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 14, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 7.

So much of General Orders No. 15, series of 1871, from these Headquarters, as modifies paragraph VIII, General Orders No. 35, series of 1870, from these Headquarters, is hereby rescinded.

Hereafter, all property on arrival at the post for which it is intended, and before passing into the posession of the receiving officer, will be examined by a Board of Survey.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 24, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 8.

The working force in the Quartermaster's Department, such as mechanics and laborers, will be classified at a *per diem*, instead of a monthly compensation, on and after the 1st proximo, and all work required to be performed over the legal working day will be paid for at a *pro rata* rate for laborers and mechanics at the depot and for extra duty men similarly employed at posts in this Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 17, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 9.

At all posts in this Department, where there are more than one company stationed, the senior cavalry and infantry officers, exclusive of the post commander, will be detailed to superintend the school of officers in the instruction of the tactics of their respective arms of service. There will be at least two recitations each week and no officer will absent himself from them except by authority of his post commander.

Monthly consolidated reports, specifying progress, subject recited on, and giving names of all officers present, and the consolidated mark opposite each officer's name, showing the character of his recitations for the month, will be forwarded through post commander with his remarks thereon.

In the reports of recitations 3 will be the number taken for the maximum of proficiency at each recitation and 0 for the minimum; they will be accompanied by report of drills for same month, showing their number, character, &c., with such remarks of the post commander appended as may be called for.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 29, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 10.

In withdrawing the troops composing the command of Lieutenant Colonel *Shafter*, 24th Infantry, which has been in the field since April 10, 1876, the Department Commander expresses his satisfaction with the manner in which its duties have been done, and his gratification at the cheerful and energetic spirit displayed by its officers and enlisted men.

The country covered and scouted over is one presenting peculiar difficulties to the operations of troops—part of it was practically unknown, (and no good guides obtainable), broken and rough, and characterized in general by great scarcity of water and grass.

During the expedition two large camps of the hostiles have been completely destroyed, much stolen stock recovered, and a number of Indians killed. As a result it is believed that the marauding bands have been broken up, and the country bordering on Coahuila for the present relieved from their depredations.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 22, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 11.

So much of General Orders No. 1, series of 1875, from these Headquarters, as relates to furnishing lists of ordnance and ordnance stores on hand to the Chief Ordnance Officer of the Department, is hereby rescinded.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

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GENERAL ORDERS
No. 11.

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Officer of the Department, is

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIE

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 2, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 12.

Hereafter, commanding officers of posts will not allow Government transportation to leave their posts for the purpose of going to rail or stage termini unless authority is obtained from these Headquarters, excepting in cases of paymasters on their own application, to signal officers as provided for in circular orders from these Headquarters, and that necessary for pursuit of deserters as far as may be deemed necessary; the term transportation includes ambulances.

Post commanders will be held strictly responsible that this order is complied with.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 11, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 13.

1. Captain *C. B. Penrose*, Commissary of Subsistence, U. S. Army, having reported at these Headquarters in accordance with paragraph VI, Special Orders No. 51, current series, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, is assigned to duty and announced as Chief Commissary of Subsistance of this Department, and Purchasing and Depot Commissary of Subsistence at San Antonio, Texas.

2. At the end of the current month, he will receive from Captain *Herman Schreiner*, 9th Cavalry, Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence of the Department, all public funds and property for which he is accountable.

3. Captain *H. Schreiner*, 9th Cavalry, having completed the transfer of his property, &c., and closed his papers, will take post at Austin, Texas.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 20, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 14.

Proceedings of courts martial in certain cases recently received for revision at these Headquarters exhibit a culpable disregard of orders, and neglect of duty, requiring, instead of words, stringent measures for correction.

There is no excuse when prisoners are allowed to escape merited punishment because courts or judge advocates are not sworn before trial; because proceedings are closed and forwarded without being properly signed; or when a prisoner is tried by name and convicted, and another man is sentenced in his stead.

Hereafter, when proceedings of courts martial are forwarded to these Headquarters exhibiting either of the culpable neglects specified, charges will be prepared against the president and judge advocate of such court, and measures taken to bring them to trial.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 25, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 15.

Department transportation is required to transport troops and authorized baggage of officers moving under orders and under special instructions from Washington; when not so engaged, to transport supplies instead of hired transportation; therefore applications for the diversion of Government transportation from its legitimate uses, for such purposes as the transportation of officers' furniture or families, returning from, or going on, leave, will not be considered, and post commanders will be governed accordingly.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 25, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 16.

For convenience of movement and concentration of troops, a District, to be known as the District of the Nueces, with headquarters at Fort Duncan, and embracing the posts of Duncan, Clark and San Felipe, is hereby established, and Lieutenant Colonel *W. R. Shafter*, 24th Infantry, is assigned to the command thereof.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 2, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 17.

Second Lieutenant *J. C. Ord*, 25th Infantry, is appointed and announced as Aide-de-Camp to the Brigadier General commanding the Department—to take effect November 1, 1876.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 3, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 18.

1. Sales of subsistence stores will be made as follows, viz: to officers (including retired officers), for the use of themselves and their families, and to commanding officers of companies, or other organizations, for the use of the messes of such companies or organizations.

2. The sale of subsistence stores to those not included in above paragraph, except to exploring and surveying expeditions especially authorized by law and under the provisions of General Orders from the War Department, No. 50, series of 1875, is strictly forbidden.

3. When an officer of the Army is absent from his family, his wife, or other member thereof, may, in his name, make such purchases on the same terms and conditions as the officer himself: *Provided*, that the officer shall, in writing, have notified the commissary at the place where the purchases are to be made that he has authorized such person to make purchases, giving his or her name and designation. Such notifications shall also state the number and designations of the persons composing the family of the officer.

4. The Subsistence Department is not to be understood as required to deliver stores or receive payment therefor elsewhere than at the subsistence storehouse.

5. A commissary may decline selling to any officer a greater quantity of stores than he believes proper for the persons composing such officer's family.

6. Officers purchasing stores from the Subsistence Department should as far as practicable procure them monthly.

7. Officers are prohibited from paying their boarding bills in orders for subsistence stores; nor will they give such orders to parties not entitled thereto under previous paragraphs.

8. It is not the intention of previous orders to deprive officers who are boarding of the right to purchas limited

amounts of subsistence stores for the personal use of themselves or families; but officers in charge of subsistence supples will exercise a sound discretion in making these sales, and when the cost of supplies asked for exceeds the sum of ten dollars for each member of such officer's family the case will be submitted to the Department Commander for his action.

9. All sales will be made on the terms and conditions prescribed in paragraph 1229, Revised U. S. Army Regulations, of 1863. Should, however, the officer in charge of subsistence supplies fail to collect cash for the stores as required by said paragraph, he will, at the end of each month, send to these Headquarters all unpaid bills of officers, in order that they may be forwarded to the Paymaster General of the Army, in accordance with paragraph No. 1144, Revised Statutes.

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Official:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 11, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 19.

Captain *James F. Gregory*, Corps of Engineers, having reported at these Headquarters in accordance with paragraph VII, Special Orders No. 237, current series, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, is assigned to duty as Chief Engineer Officer of this Department, relieving First Lieutenant *William Hoffman*, 11th Infantry, now in charge of Engineer Office.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

FORT DUNCAN, TEXAS,
January 4th, 1876.

Assistant Adjutant General,
Department of Texas.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit, for the information of the General commanding, the following report of the operations of my command during the past six months, together with a general description of the country scouted through:

I was ready to leave Fort Concho the last of June, but was detained by orders from Department Headquarters for several days, and it was not until the 14th of July that I got fairly started for the Fresh Fork of Brazos, where I proposed to establish a supply camp. I reached this point on 31st—distant one hundred and eighty miles from Fort Concho.

As it was pretty well known that the reservation Indians were nearly all in at Fort Sill, and that the Qua-ha-da's, to the number of three hundred, had come in to Sill on the 3rd of June, from Texas, I determined to break my command into scouting columns of two or three companies so as to scout as much country as possible, and to scout mainly into the plains lying west and south of Supply Camp, a country almost entirely unknown, except to Indians.

From the great amount of water that had fallen, in the early part of July, over the whole of the Staked Plains, I believed no serious trouble would be encountered from lack of water, though at that time scarcely any living water was known on the part of the plains I wished to scout.

In carrying out this plan, Captain Nolan, 10th Cavalry, with Companies A and C, was detached at Rendlebrock's spring—July 21st—with twenty days' rations, and ordered to scout in a westerly direction, finally joining me at Supply Camp, which he reached August 6th, having, on the 28th of July, destroyed a large Indian camp, with all their dried meat, lodges, skins, cooking utensils, clothing, &c.

August 5th I started on scout with four companies of cavalry, and Seminoles, for the purpose of intercepting the band of Indians found by Captain Nolan on July 28th about

150 miles south of Supply Camp. During this scout I crossed the plains to the Pecos, thence down to Horsehead crossing, returning to Supply Camp September 25th, having marched 840¾ miles, nearly the whole distance through country heretofore unknown to troops, finding several permanent watering places and destroying the lodge poles of one large Indian camp.

Meanwhile Captain Viele, 10th Cavalry, with two companies, leaving Supply Camp August 10th and 27th, had made two short scouts, one on General Mackenzie's trail to Portalis, New Mexico, and another to Palo Duro and Red river, returning to camp September 6th. Both these scouts developed the fact that no Indians were in the northern part of the plains, or had recently been passing through them.

After recruiting my animals and reclothing the men, I left Fresh Fork of Brazos, October 12th, with six companies of cavalry and two of infantry for another scout. After getting to head of Double Mountain Fork of Brazos, Captain Baldwin, with two companies of cavalry and a detail of infantry, was detached and ordered to proceed *via* Moo-cho-ko-way and Sulphur springs to Big spring, there to establish a camp and scout south and west.

With the balance of the command, I moved to Laguna Cuates, where one company of infantry was left, and then to Laguna Sabinas. At this point Lieutenant Bullis had discovered Indians and taken from them twenty-five horses and mules, the Indians escaping, leaving their camp standing, which was destroyed October 18th with all their supplies, consisting of fifty sacks of mesquite beans, three or four thousand pounds of buffalo meat, about one hundred undressed buffalo hides, one hundred good lodge poles, cooking utensils, &c.

From Laguna Sabinas I followed trail to five large wells, thirty miles south. There Lieutenant Geddes, 25th Infantry, with two companies of cavalry, and Seminoles, was detached and ordered to follow trail as long as possible, while with the two remaining companies I started across the plains to Monument spring, in New Mexico. The trail was followed by Lieutenant Geddes to the Rio Grande, about sixty miles above mouth of Pecos, where he struck a small party of Indians, killing one man and capturing four squaws and one child. From there he went to Fort Clark for rations

and then to Fort Concho, remaining at the latter post, by direction of Department Commander, until the arrival of my command.

After leaving Five wells with Companies A and C, 10th Cavalry, I marched nearly due west sixty-three miles reaching Monument spring October 23rd. On the 24th a large trail was taken and followed until the 27th when it was abandoned at the White Sand Hills, as there was no prospect of overtaking the Indians and as they were going in the direction of both Baldwin's and Geddes' columns. On this scout a large lake of permanent water was found thirty-five miles north of White Sand Hills. At this lake a large lot of poles were abandoned by the Indians, who scattered in all directions. Returned to Laguna Sabinas November 1st. November 5th sent Lieutenant Lebo from Sabinas with Company A, *via* Cuates and head of Fresh Fork of Brazos, to Casa Amarilla, from which place he was to scout for several days in that vicinity. The object of this scout was mainly to keep the Indians from getting buffalo. He returned to Cuates on the 11th, having seen no Indians or fresh signs. He found, however, six miles north of Casa Amarilla, a lake of fresh living water.

On same day that Lieutenant Lebo was sent out I left Laguna Sabinas, with Lieutenant Jones and twenty men, for Tobacco creek, where I wished to establish a new supply camp. Reached there the 6th and followed Captain Baldwin's trail to Big spring where I found him, on the 8th, in camp. On the next day Lieutenant Jones, with twenty men, was ordered to return to Sabinas, *via* Mustang springs, measuring the distance and getting the topography of the country, while I, with Lieutenant Ward and a small detail, started for the Cuates, to which point the stores and train had been moved preparatory to going to Tobacco creek.

On the 13th the camp at Cuates was broken up and all the stores and troops were ordered to new supply camp at Tobacco creek, except a few dismounted men under Captain Little who were to wait the return of Lieutenant Lebo from Casa Amarilla and were then to go to Supply Camp.

On the 15th, having been joined at Sabinas by Captains Baldwin and Kennedy's companies, which I had ordered from Big spring, I started on my third scout to New Mexico with three companies of cavalry, (C, F and I, 10th Cavalry),

leaving Lieutenants Ward and Jones, with details from these companies, numbering fifty men, with orders to go direct to Monument spring, starting on the same day that I would from the Five wells—thirty-three miles further south.

I arrived at the spring on the night of the 21st and Lieutenant Ward the next A. M., he having discovered, in the very centre of the plains, a large number (sixty) of wells of excellent water. After thoroughly scouting the country in every direction and satisfying myself that there were no Indians in that part of the plains, I started on the 27th on my return to Five wells, *via* the wells found by Lieutenant Ward. While at this place waiting the return of Lieutenant Jones, who had been sent to scout to the northwest, I received, on the 29th, the dispatches of the Commanding General directing me to come in at once. At daylight the next day I returned to Five wells, and on the 2nd December started for Fort Concho, *via* Mustang springs and head of North Concho, reaching that post December 9th, where the scout was broken up and the companies ordered to report to their respective posts. I, at the same time, starting to rejoin my own post, taking with me, by permission of the Commanding General, the adjutant and engineer officer of the expedition, (Lieutenants Ward and Jones), reaching Duncan on the 18th.

All officers in charge of scouting parties have been specially charged to carefully note the character and resources of the country passed through by them as required by letter of instructions to me, dated Headquarters Department of Texas, June 30, 1875, and the itineraries of their scouts have been forwarded with their reports, and my own, to Department Headquarters.

The country coming under my own observation embraces nearly all that scouted through by my command the past summer, except that passed over by Lieutenant Geddes in his scout to the Rio Grande, and a considerable portion of that I have passed over in former scouts.

Commencing at Fort Concho, the valley of the North Concho for sixty miles is well adapted to grazing, having sufficient wood for all necessary purposes and good running water the entire distance.

Rendlebrock's spring, twenty-five miles north of the North Concho and sixty-five miles from the post, is a large spring

of running water, and in the country about it there are large mesquite flats, well timbered, with plenty of grass, and good shelter for stock in the winter.

The wagon road to Fresh Fork of Brazos, *via* Rendlebrock's spring, leaves the North Concho forty-two miles above the post of Concho, crossing to the valleys running into the Colorado.

From Rendelebrock's spring, to where the wagon road strikes the Fresh Fork of the Brazos, the country passed through is slightly rolling, covered with excellent grass, considerable mesquite timber of small growth, (from six to twelve feet high), and having several streams and springs of good water, with one or two (the Brazos and Double Mountain Fork) salty at the point where crossed by the road, though both are fresh near their heads. The canon of the Fresh Fork of the Brazos is nearly fifty miles in length and from one-half to two and a half miles wide, through which flows a stream of excellent water the whole distance. After reaching the plains, the water is good for about twenty-five miles and then becomes salty at its junction with the Brazos. The grass in all the region of the country is excellent, and sufficient wood for fuel is easily obtained. I believe that corn could be grown the whole length of the canon without irrigation, except in unusually dry seasons.

From about half way up the canon the road crosses to the head of Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos, which flows through a canon similar to that of the Fresh Fork, parallel with it and about thirty miles distant, and extends about the same distance into the plains.

The country between these streams is high table land, with scarcely any timber and but few mesquite roots. Large circular depressions, filled with water for part of the year, occur frequently, and the whole country is covered with luxuriant grass, affording pasturage for immense herds of buffalo and would be sufficient to maintain thousands of cattle and horses that could water, when the rain-water holes dried up, in the Fresh and Double Mountain Forks of the Brazos.

From the head of Double Mountain Fork to Casa Amarilla the distance is forty-two miles, almost due west, the country being similar in all respects to that just described. Casa Amarilla is a large alkali and salt lake, of from one-

half to three-quarters of a mile in width and about three in length, situated in a depression of the plains and draining the country for several miles in all directions. There are two dug springs at the base of the bluff on the southern side, and about a half mile further south, at the head of a ravine, a large tank of fresh water that I believe is fed from springs as I could not perceive any diminution in it after using it for two days with my whole command. Six miles directly north of this lake are some large pools of living water, with plenty of wood. This would be an excellent place for sheep or horses.

Six miles west of Casa Amarilla is a large alkali lake, circular in form, about three-fourths of a mile in diameter, having some fine large springs in the bank, good grass, but no timber or roots. This lake is called by the Mexicans "Quemas," and is supposed to be very near the line of Texas and New Mexico.

The trail from Quemas to the Pecos (twenty miles above mouth of Azul, in New Mexico) passes for about twenty miles over high table land, with occasional rain-water holes, then about twenty of deep sand, then forty-seven of high hard prairie, without water but covered with luxurient grass, then twenty of very heavy sand, and about twenty of hard, high rolling country bordering the Pecos.

From this point, on the Pecos, to Horsehead crossing the distance is 157 miles, the wagon road keeping near the river. The country bordering on the Pecos for several miles has only tolerable grass, and the bluffs are covered with sharp flint rocks, with considerable small growth of brush and Spanish daggers.

From Pecos Falls to lower end of White Sand Hills the distance is about twenty miles, a little east of north, one-half the distance hard prairie and the balance heavy sand.

The White Sand Hills consist of a range of low hills of very white sand, without vegetation, and almost impassable, except for horses; at least double teams would be required to draw lightly loaded wagons through them. They present, from the distance of a few miles, the appearance of hills covered with snow. They extend northwest and southeast for about twenty-five miles and are almost five miles in width, the south end distant from the Pecos about twenty miles, the north end about forty at the nearest point. Wa-

ter in almost unlimited quantity can be had by digging in the small depressions at the bases of the hills at a depth of two to four feet.

I have twice visited these sand hills this summer and once in 1871, and every time found considerable water on the surface. There are also quite large willows and cottonwood trees growing in them, a sure indication of living water. The country east of the sand hills to Mustang and Sulphur springs, distant sixty miles, is high rolling prairie, covered with fine grass, has no known living water but abundance during the rainy season in small lakes.

From the head of the North Concho two large wagon roads into the plains have been made by my command, one going up the right hand valley to Big spring, thence *via* Sulphur springs, Tobacco creek and head of Colorado (Moo-cho-ko-way) to Cuates and head of Double Mountain Fork of Brazos; the other takes the left hand valley and goes *via* Mustang springs to Five wells, Laguna Sabinas and Laguna Cuates.

From Five wells there are two wagon roads to Monument spring, in New Mexico, and one from there to Dug spring, twenty miles due south and thirty-two miles from the Pecos.

From head of North Concho to Big spring the distance is thirty miles, country high rolling prairie, road hard. Big spring is a very large spring of excellent water, situated in a rocky gorge between two very high hills. Considerable mesquite timber in the vicinity, and plenty of excellent stone for building.

Sulphur springs lies thirty miles nearly west from Big spring, country rolling, except five or six miles of quite heavy sand, water excellent and, as at Big spring, in inexhaustible quantities by any amount of stock that can be fed within reach of them. At this point the road turns almost due north and passes through a magnificent grazing country for twenty miles to Tobacco creek; this is a small stream of but few miles in length, rising in the edge of the plains, near where the road strikes it, and running nearly east. Two miles farther north is another larger branch, and from there on for twenty miles there are several small running streams and springs, one of them being the head of the Colorado—these streams forming what is known as the Moo-cho-ko-way country. The water is excellent and inexhaust-

ible; considerable mesquite timber—sufficient for all necessary purposes of settler, and stone convenient for building. All of the valleys through which streams flow can be irrigated to some extent. I do not think there is any doubt but corn could be raised without irrigation nearly every year. As a grazing country it is unsurpassed by any portion of Western Texas from the Gulf to New Mexico and Indian Territory.

From the head of Colorado to Laguna Cuates is thirty miles, over a high slightly rolling hard prairie covered with good grass, but very little wood above ground and mesquite roots scarce. During the rainy season there are many large lakes of water.

Laguna Cuates are two large very salt lakes situated in a depression of the plains, they are, together, about three miles long and one and one-half wide. Near the edges of them are several springs of good water. At this place I dug two large holes in the bank, about twelve or fifteen feet square, which soon filled to a depth of two or three feet. By digging I do not think there is any reasonable limit to the water that could be obtained.

Laguna Blanco is a similar lake, eight miles east of Cuates, having also fresh water springs.

Six miles south of Cuates are two lakes, separated but a few hundred yards, the one very salty and the other fresh, both evidently never going dry.

About all these lakes there are great quantities of mesquite roots sufficient to furnish fuel for any population the country could support.

From Cuates to head of Double Mountain Fork the distance is thirty-two miles, nearly due north, country high hard rolling prairie.

Taking the left hand valley, two miles above head water on the North Concho, a large wagon road leads due west, over rolling hard prairie, to Mustang springs, distant forty-two miles. Six and a half miles further west, and on the wagon road, are several other springs. The water at both these places is in great abundance, hundreds of buffalo watering at them daily, not exhausting them. Plenty of mesquite roots for fuel, and good grass and shelter in ravines.

From upper Mustang springs to Five wells the distance is thirty-four miles, northwest, over a high level prairie,

with numerous large sink holes, or ponds, filled for several months in the year with water.

The Five wells are situated in a ravine about one-eighth to one-half of a mile in width, the length is not known; it was examined for several miles each way without finding any other water, except a few small salt lakes. These wells are within a few yards of each other, are about six or eight feet deep and from four to ten feet in diameter, with three to four feet of water. Watering about five hundred animals for three days did not, apparently, at all diminish the water; grass excellent and plenty of shelter for stock in ravines; mesquite roots for fuel not very large or abundant.

Laguna Sabinas, thirty-two miles due north from Five wells, is an alkali or salt lake, nearly six miles long and four wide, with plenty of good water in numerous wells or rather *dug* springs in a ravine at the north end, and several large wells at the south end, of slightly brackish water but fit for use of men and animals. Water can be found by digging anywhere near the edge of the lake; grass in vicinity excellent, and plenty of wood (roots).

From the north end of the lake are two large wagon roads, one going nearly due east to head of Tobacco creek, distant thirty-five miles. About five miles of the road heavy sand, the balance high hard prairie. The left hand road runs nearly northeast thirty-two miles to Laguna Cuates, high prairie and sand about equally distributed at intervals of three or four miles. About the bluffs of Laguna Sabinas are found a few small cedars; stone for building in the bluffs.

From the Five wells there are two wagon roads, one running a little south of west, the other a little north, to Monument spring, in New Mexico, distant by the left hand road sixty-three miles and by the right sixty-six; the latter being the preferable route on account of less sand and much better water. By the left hand road it is all heavy sand, except three short stretches, of a couple of miles each, to an alkali lake, distant from Five wells thirty-six miles. This lake is situated in a depression of the prairie with hard ground all around it, extending several miles on the south and west; water permanent and, though quite strongly alkali, can be used from holes dug in the bank; better water is obtained, though none of it is good. Grass excellent and very luxuriant; wood (roots) in abundance. The lake is circular

in form and one-eighth of a mile in diameter. From this lake to Monument spring, distant twenty-seven miles, the country is rolling, about half hard prairie, the balance light sand.

By the right hand road, going west from Five wells, the distance to the first of Ward's wells is twenty-four miles, about sixteen of it heavy sand, the rest hard. These wells are situated in a ravine (from one-fourth to three-fourths of a mile in width) or narrow valley, extending northwest and southeast, through the centre of the plains, for at least fifty miles, bordered on each side by from one to three miles of hard prairie, making a strip of prairie from two to six miles in width. There are about fifty of these wells, in the first valley, in a space of one and one-half miles. Wells are from four feet deep at the western end to fifteen at the eastern, and having from two to four feet of water, of excellent quality and affording water for several thousand horses or cattle. Grass excellent, and wood (roots) in abundance.

Three and one-half miles on the road, west of the first wells, in a similar ravine which joins the long one, are found about twenty more wells, and two miles south, in a third ravine, are several more, these last are off the road about a mile. This appears to have been a favorite resort of Indians, as shown by deeply worn trails, old lodges and heads of cattle. No sign of buffalo so far west as this, the line of sand from a few miles south of Quemas to Laguna Rico and Sabinas and thence through Five wells and Mustang springs to head of Main Concho being their western limit.

From the second springs to Monument spring, distant thirty-seven miles, a little south of west, the road runs most of the way over rolling prairie, with about fifteen miles of not very heavy sand.

Monument spring is so named from a monument I had built on a hill southwest and one and one-fourth miles distant from the spring. This monument is of nearly white stone, about eight feet in diameter at the base, four at the top, and seven and one-half feet high. It can be seen for several miles in all directions.

Monument spring is a very large spring of excellent water, furnishing enough for several thousand head of horses. The country to the north is, for fifty miles, hard high prairie,

to the south and west sandy; grass, in all directions, of luxuriant growth, of the finest quality found on the plains; wood abundant (roots) for fuel, and good building stone in the hills near by (limestone).

Twenty miles due south is Dug springs, three in number, situated in a small valley of salty grass. The wells are a few yards apart, about six feet deep and four in diameter, having a depth of three or four feet of water and furnishing enough for about one thousand horses per day. My command, of about three hundred animals, watering all at one time soon exhausted the springs, but in an hour or two they were full again. Plenty of wood in this vicinity, and tolerable good grass close by, within easy grazing distance it was excellent.

From Dug springs to the Pecos the distance is about thirty-two miles, one-half of the way heavy sand and the rest hard rolling hills. There is no wagon road to the Pecos but a very plain and deeply worn Indian trail, running almost due west until near the Pecos, when it turns southwest, striking that stream just above the mouth of the Azul or Blue river, at a shallow, rock-bottom crossing, where the water in ordinary stages is not over fifteen inches deep.

From Mustang springs to Centralia the distance is fifty-four miles, without water on the trail of Lieutenant Geddes, except one salt lake thirty-five miles north and twenty-five west of Central station. At this lake water might be found by digging. Southeast of Central station and eighteen miles from it a fine spring of water, hitherto unknown, was found by Lieutenant Geddes, which will, undoubtedly, cause a change in the road across the plains to the Pecos. From this spring to Howard's wells and the Pecos the country has never been scouted; on the trail followed by Lieutenant Geddes no other permanent water was found until he reached Howard's wells, on the San Antonio road. From this point west to the Rio Grande the country is least known of any in this Department and is the most difficult to scout in, as it has, so far, been found impossible to take wagons along, and from the country being cut up by very deep and rocky ravines and all the hills covered with a kind of miniature Spanish dagger, making it very difficult and painful traveling for horses. There is, undoubtedly, plenty of water, and this country has always been a favorite resort for

the Apaches and Lipans. Lieutenant Geddes discovered several good springs of water on his trail and reports that his command did not suffer at all from want of water. My experience, farther west and near the Rio Grande, was the same in the fall of 1871, when I was, at no time, more than a half day without water, either in springs or rock tanks.

The map of this scout will show the exact location of all the water found by Lieutenant Geddes. There is no wagon road on this trail and scouting parties will have to be guided by the compass in finding these watering places.

The supplies furnished my command have been of the best quality and to the full amount asked for, the commissariat being unusually fine and in such quantities that the enlisted men were allowed to purchase all they wished.

The command, as furnished me, was sufficient for the work it was expected to do, and I regret that so little actual damage was inflicted on the Indians—one killed and five captured being the extent in that direction.—Of the destruction of their supplies the showing is a little better, one of their largest bands loosing everything in their camp except horses. One smaller camp was, also, destroyed, with all the supplies in it, and about all the lodge poles any of the bands had were burned at various times.

About seventy-five ponies were picked up, the most of them of little value, those taken by Lieutenant Bullis being the best. Eleven good mules, in all, were captured; they, with the only two horses suitable for Government work, were branded and taken up by the quartermaster. The best of these ponies were given to the guides, (Seminoles and Tonkowas), with a few to some of the officers. A good many were claimed when they reached Concho and quite a number broken down and left on the plains by the guides. The Indians, themselves, were driven from the plains to Mexico, where they now are.

But one opportunity to inflict serious damage on the Indians occurred during the scout, when the troops suddenly found themselves within easy striking distance of a large camp. This opportunity was, however, unimproved by the officer in command, and the Indians permitted to escape without attack or pursuit.

At the time my command left the plains to come in I do not believe there was an Indian east of the Pecos and south of Red river.

The various scouts have shown how easily the plains can be traversed, in almost any direction, and to all the large watering places there are plain wagon roads that will show for years.

Unless there should be an outbreak of the Indians in the Indian Territory but few troops will be necessary to keep the lower part of the plains free from Indians. A command of the size of my own, stationed at three or four points, would easily do it. The occupation of the more important watering places on the plains will be, in my opinion, all that is necessary to keep the Indians entirely off them, unless it might be after heavy rains, when they could stay at rain-water holes; but, even in that case, they would not dare to leave their families to go on stealing expeditions with soldiers anywhere within a hundred miles of them.

I believe that if two or three permanent camps were established on the edge of the plains, of three or four companies each, that the frontier settlements in Western Texas would be advanced one hundred and fifty miles within two years.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance and support I have received from the Department Commander by the quickness with which all my requests have been granted, and for the completeness of my entire command when it took the field.

I wish to invite the attention of the Department Commander to the officers mentioned in the order breaking up the scout, who, for their ability and zeal, are deserving his consideration.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. R. SHAFTER,

Lieutenant Colonel 24th Infantry,

Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 4, 1876.

CIRCULAR:

Hereafter, the four copies of Inventory and Inspection Reports of property, on which articles are recommended to be dropped from returns and destroyed, will be returned to the officer directed to superintend the destruction, who, after the property is destroyed, will sign the printed certificates on the back of the reports, and furnish the responsible officer two copies, mailing the remaining copies direct to the Acting Assistant Inspector General of the Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

Mr Flinn

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 20, 1876.

[CIRCULAR:]

Proceedings of Courts Martial received at these Headquarters show frequent acts of violence on the part of soldiers against their comrades, using their arms for this purpose.

Paragraph I, General Orders No. 19, series of 1872, from these Headquarters, require that the men's arms shall be kept in the arm racks, except when the soldier is going on, or actually on duty.

Hereafter, post commanders will report on each bi-monthly inspection report whether the arms of the enlisted men, including pistols and sabres, at the post are kept locked or not, and, if not, the reason for the failure.

In case there are not sufficient padlocks, or material for armracks, requisitions for such will be made at once.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 2, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

Circular of May 4th, current series, from these Headquarters, is modified so as to render Inventory and Inspection Reports, hereafter, in triplicate, and the officer who witnesses the destruction of the property will, after signing the certificates thereon, return *one copy* to the Acting Assistant Inspector General of the Department.

Requisitions will at once be made to the Adjutant General of the Army for the new form of Inventory and Inspection Reports adopted January 2, 1876.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 13, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

The following letter from Headquarters of the Army is published for the information of all concerned:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 6, 1876.

To the Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

It is reported to the General of the Army that mounted officers keep in service public horses and at the same time draw forage for private horses. This cannot be allowed, nor must they use public animals, except as authorized by the Army Regulations.

These officers receive by law higher pay than foot officers for the express object of enabling them to purchase horses and equipments, and they are expected to continually provide themselves with these indispensable requisites for the performance of their duties.

When, however, through the casualties of service on the frontier or in the field, they become dispossessed of their horses, mounted officers will (unless they prefer to replace them from other sources) make immediate application to their commanding officers for authority to purchase public horses, in conformity with Paragraph 1143, of the Army Regulations for 1863.

Should the commanding officer, in a particular instance, deem it detrimental to the service to give such authority, and the exigencies of the occasion render it necessary for the proper discharge of the officer's duties, he will be allowed to take a public horse and equipments for *temporary* use. He will not, however, during the period of such use be permitted to draw any forage allowances for private horses.

Commanders of posts, companies and detachments should be held responsible that the requirements of this order are strictly enforced, and should take prompt official action upon all violations of the same.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL SHERMAN:
(Signed.) E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

Post commanders will be held responsible that the requirements of this order are strictly enforced.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 24, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

To enable the Department Commander to prepare the estimates required by Circular dated Headquarters of the Army, May 6, 1876, the chiefs of the several staff departments will prepare estimates for amounts required in each, as indicated in the circular referred to, and transmit them to these Headquarters not later than July 31, 1876.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 8, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

The attention of all officers on duty at these Headquarters is called to paragraph II, Circular of July 13, 1875, from same Headquarters.

When the Chief Quartermaster reports that the number of spring-wagons on hand will allow it, special directions will be given to cover cases which may require a modification of said paragraph.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General,

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 13, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

For the information of all concerned, the best target practice of the companies in this Department, for the month of April, is hereby announced.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

Distance.	*Co.*	*Regiment.*	*Post.*	*Company Commanders.*	*Percentage of Hits.*
700 yards..	B	25th Infantry..	Fort Quitman	Capt. Bentzoni.	..30
450 yards .	I	8th Cavalry ...	Ringgold Barracks.	Capt. Coster....	..22
400 yards..	G	8th Cavalry ...	Ringgold Barracks.	Capt. Fechet....	..41
350 yards..	C	8th Cavalry ...	Ringgold Barracks.	Capt. Chilson ..	..63
300 yards .	H	24th Infantry..	Fort Brown.....	Capt. Gilmore..	..76
250 yards..	H	11th Infantry..	Fort Concho	Capt. Gilbreath.	..88
200 yards..	L	10th Cavalry ..	Fort Concho	Capt. Little.....	..80
150 yards..	I	25th Infantry..	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson...	..73
100 yards..	I	25th Infantry..	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson..	..81
50 yards..	I	25th Infantry..	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson...	..90

All the companies in the Department practiced during April, except those at Fort Duncan.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

[Corrected copy.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 14, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

For the information of all concerned, the best target practice of the companies in this Department, for the month of May, is hereby announced.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

Distance.	*Co.*	*Regiment.*	*Post.*	*Company Commanders.*	*Percentage of Hits.*
800 yards	B	25th Infantry	Fort Quitman	Capt. Bentzoni	39
750 yards	B	25th Infantry	Fort Quitman	Capt. Bentzoni	39
450 yards	I	25th Infantry	Ringgold Barracks	Capt. Armstrong	44
400 yards	G	24th Infantry	Ringgold Barracks	Capt. Jonnson	46
350 yards	H	24th Infantry	Fort Brown	Capt. Gilmore	81
300 yards	K	11th Infantry	Fort Richardson	Capt. Jackson	72
250 yards	K	11th Infantry	Fort Richardson	Capt. Jackson	83
200 yards	C	11th Infantry	Fort Brown	Capt. Sanderson	86
150 yards	I	25th Infantry	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson	80
100 yards	I	25th Infantry	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson	85
50 yards	I	25th Infantry	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson	94

All the companies in the Department practiced during May, except those at Fort Duncan and in the field.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 19, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

Hereafter when an officer serving in this Department is granted a leave of absence he will, on the day he takes advantage of it, report the fact to these Headquarters and also his address, monthly, while so absent.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

[Corrected copy.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 22, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

For the information of all concerned, the best target practice of the companies in this Department, for the month of June, is hereby announced.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

Distance.	*Co.*	*Regiment.*	*Post.*	*Company Commanders.*	*Percentage of Hits.*
450 yards..	I	24th Infantry..	Ringgold Barracks .	Capt. Armstrong	..33
400 yards .	H	24th Infantry..	Fort Brown.	Capt. Gilmore ..	..70
300 yards..	K	11th Infantry..	Fort Richardson ...	Capt. Jackson...	..80
250 yards .	G	11th Infantry..	Fort Griffin	Capt. Schwan .	..59
200 yards..	H	11th Infantry..	Fort Concho	Capt. Gilbreath .	..60
150 yards .	K	25th Infantry..	Fort Davis	Capt. Tomkins ..	..76
100 yards..	I	25th Infantry..	Fort Davis	Capt. Lawson ...	..81
50 yards..	K	25th Infantry..	Fort Davis	Capt. Tomkins ..	..77

All the companies in the Department practiced during June, except those in the field with scouting expedition.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

Mr Ilian

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 15, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

For the information of all concerned, the best target practice of the companies in this Department, for the month of July, is hereby announced.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

Distance.	*Co.*	*Regiment.*	*Company Commanders.*	*Post.*	*Percentage of Hits.*
450 yards..	H	24th Infantry..	Capt. Gilmore ..	Fort Brown	..78
400 yards ..	A	24th Infantry ..	Capt. Crandal..	Fort McIntosh.....	..54
300 yards..	K	11th Infantry..	Capt. Jackson ..	Fort Richardson....	..88
250 yards .	B	25th Infantry..	Capt. Bentzoni.	Fort Quitman	..75
200 yards..	B	10th Infantry..	Capt. Bush	Fort McKavett	..64
150 yards..	G	11th Infantry..	Capt. Schwan...	Fort Griffin..... ...	..57
100 yards..	B	11th Infantry.	Capt. Conrad ..	Fort Richardson	..78

All the companies in the Department practiced during July, except those in the field with scouting expedition.

The attention of cavalry commanders is called to the above list of companies.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 22, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

The attention of post commanders and quartermasters is called to the liability of shortage in weight occurring in hay in warm and dry climate by drying. Investigation at each post will be made as to the relative weights of a cube of eight feet of hay (accepted as weighing one ton) at date of delivery and after it has been exposed at least one season.

Report of the result will be made to these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 6, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

I. Officers detailed on recruiting service at posts in this Department will report at end of each five days the number of men enlisted—giving arm of service—and regiment for which recruited, and disposition made of them. These reports will be sent direct to the Superintendents of the General Recruiting Service at Saint Louis and New York, and should be accompanied by descriptive lists and such other information as may be required. Abstract of the reports, showing number of men enlisted, arm of the service, and regiments for which recruited, will be forwarded to these Headquarters.

II. The following is the apportionment of enlisted men of regiments serving in this Department: Cavalry—8th and 10th Regiments, 1202 each; Infantry—10th and 11th Regiments, 545 each, and 24th and 25th Regiments, 305 each.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 8, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

Post commanders will cause to be furnished from their posts on requisition of the officer in charge of the construction of the military telegraph lines in this Department such aid in its construction and repair as can be done without detriment to the service, and the Quartermaster's Department will furnish such material and transportation as may be needed and can be properly supplied by that department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 14, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

In order that the measurements may be verified, and errors corrected in the reports of target practice, post commanders will require company commanders to submit with their reports of target practice a diagram of the target, certified on its face by the officer present at the practice, showing the exact position of each hit, and accompanied by a scale by which measurements can be verified. These diagrams will be forwarded with the consolidated report to Department Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 22, 1876.

[CIRCULAR.]

Post commanders will report, with as little delay as practicable, whether in their judgment the interests of the service will be subserved by turning in the experimental intrenching tools and trowel bayonets now in the hands of troops under their command.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 26, 1876.

Assistant Adjutant General,
Military Division of the Missouri,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:

I herewith enclose reports marked A, B, C and D, showing the movements of troops, number of scouts and expeditions in my Department, number of offenses against persons and property committed by troops, and number of desertions in it, all for the past year.

In regard to expeditions after hostile Indians, all the Indians who come into, or temporarily occupy, this State, are, and have been for years, hostile; they never come around the settlements except to rob or murder, and the peculiarly wild, rugged and inhospitable character of the immense and almost unknown portion of Texas, extending from the 100th meridian, in a line due west, to El Paso del Norte, a distance of four hundred miles, and from the Red river, south, to the Rio Bravo, a distance along that meridian of four hundred and sixty miles, makes it, next to impossible, with the limited force at my command to do more than guard a few important settlements along or near the Rio Grande, protect the stage routes, and occasionally pursue a raiding band after it has struck its blow and is in full run for a hitherto safe retreat among the recesses of the mountains in Northeastern Mexico.

Many of these Indians have, in years past, been driven by the troops and Texans from this State to the uninhabited mountains of Mexico, whence they have carried on their depredations with impunity and great profit, selling their plunder to the nearest Mexican towns or villages, and returning to Texas for more booty as soon as the proceeds of previous raids were spent.

Some of the settlements along the Rio Grande have been almost abandoned by the stock rancheros because of the want of safety to life or property, and I have had summer camps established at two such places for the protection of the settlers. The stock interest exposed to these raids is

very large and is entitled to consideration, and I here repeat what I stated in a former report that there is only one way of checking the raiders or of recovering the stolen property and that is to pursue them to their retreats in Mexico, where they can be punished and the stock sometimes recovered, they always have the start of troops sent to overtake them while in United States territory, and they always have the plundered horses to ride—changing as fast as needed—so that they nearly always reach the river in safety and taunt us from the other side as they ride leisurely along, driving the stolen American stock and sometimes displaying the scalps of our people.

The authorities of Chihuahua have invited co-operation on their side of the river with a view to rid themselves of these Indians who have not scrupled at times to cross the river near where they live, go some distance up or down, recross and plunder on the Mexican side.

I herewith append telegrams showing the condition of some of the principal towns of the frontier provinces in Mexico and the measures taken for the protection of American interests thereat.

[1]
[TELEGRAM.]

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS,
April 18, 1876.

Drum, Chicago.

The following received last night from commander Fort McIntosh, April 16, 1876: Revolutionists levied prestumos on inhabitants of New Laredo, including five Americans, and threatened to break open their stores and sell goods to double amount assessed unless paid by eight to-morrow morning. Commercial Agent has appealed to me but I have no authority to act and no force if I had authority.

[Signed.] MERRIAM, *Major Commanding.*

His instructions are as directed from Division Commander, "to remain strictly neutral," but Revolutionists may take advantage of the small U. S. force there available, plunder and murder peaceable Americans.

Should I send a larger force there could it, in such extremity, cross the river for protection of Americans at a place from which the Governmental forces had been driven?

[Signed.] ORD, *Brig. Gen.*

[2]
[TELEGRAM.]

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS,
July 14, 1876.

Devin, Brown:

The following dispatch from the General of the Army is forwarded for your information and guidance, in answer to a telegram from United States Consul in Matamoras, to the effect that Cortina was near, and asking assistance of the troops at Brownsville. The Secretary of State informs him that the Government could not authorize any interference by the troops of the United States, but that the authorities would be instructed to lend aid for the protection of the lives and property of American citizens.

[Signed.] DRUM, *Asst. Adjt. Gen.*

The following telegram sent Merriam April 19th is sent for your guidance in case necessity arises to move troops into Mexico to protect lives and property of American citizens:

In reply to telegram stating that five American citizens in New Laredo had, through the Commercial Agent, asked for protection against Revolutionary officers, on account of refusing to pay prestamo, from being sold out, the Secretary of War directs that you will grant the protection asked its American citizens in New Laredo against such lawless outrages as the Government of Mexico is unable to prevent, but wishes caution.

[Signed.] TAYLOR, *Asst. Adjt. Gen.*

BY ORDER:

[Signed.] SCHREINER, *Act. Aide-de-Camp.*

[3]

[LETTER, TRANSLATED COPY.]

Private correspondence of the General in Chief of the Free Zone of the line of the Bravo.

MATAMORAS, *July* —, 1876.

General Devin,
Fort Brown, Texas.

My dear friend:

I have the pleasure to inform you that citizens Candelario Juimes, Marcos Lopez and Pedro Vasquez, residing at the "Banco," Mexican territory on the left bank of the Bravo, were arrested on the 16th day of the present month.

These individuals are accused of the robbery of a train of merchandise, and the murder of its conductors, act which took place in September, 1875, near Reynosa; they are also accused of the robbery of a train of silver and the killing of two cart drivers who were with it.

From this you will see that I am pursuing bandits in the most active manner and it is to be hoped that the plague, which for past years has been devastating this frontier, may be destroyed in accordance with the desires which I have already expressed to you for the pacification and progress of the border. Without further of importance to add to-day,

I remain, General,
Your off. friend, &c.,
[Signed.] Y. REVUELTAS.

[LETTER, TRANSLATED COPY.]

POLITICAL AND MILITARY HEADQUARTERS OF THE FREE ZONE OF THE LINE OF THE BRAVO.

Ygnacio Revueltas, General in Chief of the 2nd Brigade of the 3rd Division, Political Chief and Military Commander of the Free Zone of the line of the Bravo.

Certifies that the Mexican citizens, Candelario Jaimes, Marcos Lopez and Pedro Vasquez, at present prisoners in this city, were arrested at the Banco, on the left bank of the Bravo and in Mexican territory, by Mexican citizens on the night of the 15th of the present month, and that the said Candelario Jaimes, Marcos Lopez and Pedro Vasquez are accused before the proper judicial authority, who will institute the corresponding suit in conformity to the laws, of robbery in September, 1875, a train of merchandise belonging to Mr. Julius Eversman, a German subject, of murdering its conductors, of robbing in November, of same year, another train of silver, of killing two cart drivers and, finally, for murdering Mrs. Manuel Pozos in May, of the present year.

In witness, whereof, I have issued the present, in Matamoras, this 24th day of July, 1876.

[Signed.] Y. REVUELTAS.

[4]

[TELEGRAM.]

FORT McINTOSH, *Aug.* 8, 1876.

To the Asst. Adjt. General,
San Antonio.

New Laredo this instant carried by assault. One man has been wounded by stray shot on our side.

[Signed.] MERRIAM,
Lieut. Col., Comdg.

[5]

[TELEGRAM.]

FORT McINTOSH, *Sept.* 3, 1876.

To the Asst. Adjt. General,
San Antonio, Texas.

United States Commercial Agent appeals for troops to protect himself and Americans in New Laredo, enclosing copy of petition made by merchants to him; represents town entirely without authority, civil or military, of either contending party, and that a band of twenty or more armed men, under Cecilio Benavides, a notorious robber and murderer, has just

entered town to the terror of the people. Shall I take action now, or await acts of robbery?

[Signed.] MERRIAM,
Lieut. Col., Comdg.

[6]
[TELEGRAM.]

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS;
September 3, 1876.

Merriam, McIntosh.

If there is no other alternative, and American citizens are in danger, do not wait till robberies begin but act at once. In case you cross to protect such, remain only long enough to enable American citizens to return with you and secure their property by bringing it to this side. You must be the judge of the time necessary to do this; we cannot garrison New Laredo.

[Signed.] ORD, *Brig. Gen.*

[7]
[TELEGRAM.]

NEW LAREDO, *Sept.* 8, 1876.

To Gen. Ord.

United States troops have been guarding my office and stores of American merchants for two days. Colonel Merriam says that he is not authorized to continue occupation and wishes to withdraw the troops which would be simply abandoning us to the power of the bandit Cecilio Benavides, who is the terror of both parties here. Civil authorities are afraid to stay here at night Benavides was in the suburbs of the town last night with about fifty men and was only prevented from sacking the stores and murdering American merchants here by presence of the U. S. soldiers. He stopped every one who entered or left town, inquired for Mr. Constance and myself, said he would hang us both as soon as he could catch us. He has planned the murder and robbery of Messrs. F. Levy, M. Diamond, T. Walsh, J. Villegas, and Raldrode & Son. This is reliable. Mexican citizens here indignant at occupation. Many threats but no action so far. It would ruin American merchants to cross their goods and persons to Laredo, Tex.

[Signed.] J. J. HAYNES,
U. S. Commercial Agent.

[8]
[TELEGRAM.]

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS,
September 8, 1876.

To J. J. Haynes,
Commercial Agent, New Laredo.
(Thro' Major Merriam, commanding Fort McIntosh.)

Dispatch received. I am perfectly aware of the danger of doing business at Laredo and the suspension of all authority, but U. S. troops cannot remain on foreign territory for protection of special interests.

Major Merriam is hereby instructed to give American merchants four days, including to-morrow, to get out of the country with their valuables, at the end of that time to withdraw the troops. This is best I can do for you.

[Signed.] ORD, *Brig. Gen.*

[9]
[LETTER.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE RIO GRANDE,
FORT BROWN, TEXAS, *Sept.* 8, 1876.

To the Assistant Adjutant General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following extract from the report of the Grand Jury of the 25th Judicial District of Texas:

[EXTRACT.]

* * * * *

GRAND JURY ROOM, *Sept.* 6, 1876.

To the Hon. Edward Dougherty,
Judge of the 25th Judicial District of Texas.

Sir:

In our investigation concerning the alleged kidnapping case by Mexican officials, we find that the territory on which said act was committed is a cut off from Mexico, and is still under Mexican jurisdiction.

Very respectfully,
[Signed.] FRANK H. PIERCE,
Foreman of Grand Jury.

* * * * *

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] THOS. C. DEVIN,
Lieutenant Colonel 8th Cavalry, commanding.

[10]
[TELEGRAM.]
FORT BROWN, TEXAS, *September* 11, 1876.

Taylor, Assistant Adjutant General,
San Antonio, Texas.

Situation here all quiet up to date. Most of the reports you see in Galveston paper about Federal reverses are untrue. It is true that Prommerado occupied Camargo without a fight. They have assured citizens of protection and civil authorities to continue their functions. Cortina has issued a proclamation dated opposite Matamoras and expressing intention to occupy the town, but at the same time and date two hundred of Revueltas' troops were fifteen miles in front of town burning all the ranches within ten miles of Matamoras, among them Cortina's ranch, La Subanito, and shooting, hanging and taking prisoners his adherents and returning without molestation.

People are now awaiting result of change of Mexican cabinet and action of Congress, which convenes on September 16. There have been plenty of scares but no real attack, or I would have notified you. Revueltas will not scare and that is the matter with the revolution and its partisans here, but he has only about 600 men to move his lines and cannot go out to fight them.

[Signed.] DEVIN, *commanding.*

[11]
[TELEGRAM.]
FORT BROWN, *September* 13, 1876.

To Asst. Adjt. Genl. Dept. of Texas.

The following telegram, received last night, is hereby respectfully forwarded:

Local authorities with Federal Alcalde completed organization yesterday, but my troops remained in possession, by their request, until this morning, when they withdrew and I received thanks from Mexican authorities for my action. Report by mail.

[Signed.] MERRIAM, *Lieut. Col. comdg.*
[Signed.] DEVIN, *commanding.*

[12]
[TELEGRAM.]
FORT McINTOSH, *September* 20, 1876.

To Asst. Adjt. Genl. Dept. of Texas,
San Antanio.

Revolutionary collector at New Laredo orders American merchants to make new entry and pay duplicate duties on all goods imported through Federal customhouse since August 23. If not complied with by 3 o'clock treble rates to be charged, besides fines. This is a new form of robbery and if carried out will injure one house to amount of several thousand dollars. They have refused to comply and I expect another appeal for protection. Line not working to Fort Brown.

[Signed.] MERRIAM, *Lieut. Col. comdg.*

[13]
[TELEGRAM.]
SAN ANTONIO, *Sept.* 21, 1876.

Commanding officer McIntosh.

The Department Commander does not intend to interfere with the Collector of Customs at Laredo.

[Signed.] TAYLOR, *Asst. Adjt. Genl.*

[14]
[TELERRAM.]
FORT BROWN, TEXAS, *Sept.* 21, 1876.

To Asst. Adjt. Genl. Dept. of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

District all quiet. No cattle raids since first telegram. There is always, in the matter of stealing, some going on. Several cattle thieves have been arrested and are under bonds, also a number of revolutionists have been arrested on this side of the river and placed under bonds. General Placido Vega, of the revolutionary forces, was arrested in Brownsville on Monday night and placed under bonds by United States Commissioner Kelly. I. I. Smith, American citizen of Brownsville, in whose room Vega had staid on Monday night, was arrested in Matamoras while examining the Mexican

intrenchments. He is now held by Mexican authorities as a spy. The revolutionary forces all through the State of Tamaulipas are converging towards Matamoras and are daily expected to attack the city, which holds about 800 men, under Revueltas. The woods are three miles in extent across the bend of river north; five gates or sally ports, covered by light guns. The Mexican military authorities co-operate promptly with United States troops in maintaining order and suppressing raiding. If Cortina were successful it would be likely to renew cattle raiding as all the cattle thieves are known to be his adherents, but as the revolutionists know that the United States will not permit Cortina to capture Matamoras the operations are now conducted in the name of General Canales.

[Signed.] DEVIN, *commanding.*

The last dispatch from New Laredo (No. 12) shows that the revolutionist collector had re-levied duties on imports brought in since 23rd of last August—this is simply not a new mode of robbery. In fact the business of collecting revenue in goods, money or anything, is one that is taken up by any leader in the country who can gather a few armed followers with whom to divide the plunder. Around Matamoras, Canales and Cortina with their bands collect revenue, and when they cannot get money they will take mules, horses, watches, jewelry, supplies, et caetera. At the same time the regular Government officials collect the revenue inside the town, making occasional collecting dashes outside. The outsiders extend their collecting tours occasionally to this side the river, which, being more profitable, and a relief to their own citizens, is one cause of their greater popularity. One of the demoralizing effects of this cut-throat struggle on the lower Rio Grande, over some hundreds of miles along our immediate border, is, that whenever one of the contending bands gets worsted, and it is convenient to do so, they take refuge on this side the river, and use it as a base from which, when a fair opportunity offers—and the other party is off its guard—to continue the war, and from which to draw supplies, not always with the consent of the owners. Of course the increase of renegades and vagabonds from such a source (men who will rob a traveler or an unprotected outlying settler for a few dollars or a horse) is no advantage to us, and the reresult is that the Texas border is not as safe a place to live or travel in as it used to be.

Indeed, it has become a grave question what steps shall be taken to put a stop to these disorders on our immediate frontier which so vitally effect the safety of our own territory.

In one of the late attacks of the revolutionists at New Laredo they took such aim that their bullets came across

the river and killed one or two persons and wounded some others on our side of the river.

It cannot be doubted that the war in Mexico is turning loose upon that unfortunate country—and occasionally in ours—the very worst elements of society, and where such a state of things prevails, industry, commerce, and all progress in peaceful pursuits, are paralyzed; old public works go to ruin, and there is no likelihood of new ones being commenced, and the interests of foreign merchants is the first to suffer.

From the facts that among his opponents are the worst men in the country, and that the banditti and bigotry are combined against him, there is every reason to believe that the present President of the Republic was deeply interested in promoting the progress and welfare of his country, and had his efforts and those of his officers been seconded there would have been a much better condition of affairs than now exists.

While it may seem to be none of my business as a military commander to give my opinions in the matter of the causes that continue revolutions in our sister Republic, or to suggest the remedies for such, yet the welfare of that, our only republican neighbor, is so intimately connected with our own, and on her condition—whether one of peace or war—depends somewhat the number of troops which it behooves us to maintain in this Department; so that, really, this *is* a question of military importance, and I therefore feel justified in giving it as my belief, that were the intelligent and patriotic men in Mexico (and there are a good many such there) convinced that the United States had no ulterior designs upon the territory of that country, were anxious not only to protect them in the peaceful possession of it, but that, on no consideration, could we be induced to accept any accession from Mexico; then, and only until such an opinion prevails, can a great and beneficial influence in promoting works of internal improvement be exerted in that country by our capitalists. Now, our advice and offers of aid or capital to develop the resources of the country, are generally regarded as coming from a covetous, powerful and unscrupulous neighbor, rather disposed to foment their internal troubles with a view to take advantage of them at the first favorable opportunity and

seize a slice of their land, than to help her in her need. So much is this the case that no party valuing the popular favor would allow it to be supposed that they are friendly disposed towards "los Yankees" or any enterprise that comes from them. (See Cortina's proclamation accusing the Government of favoring the Yankees). For the reasons above stated, I have, in dealing with raids and raiders from the revolutionary border States of Mexico, considered them as the enemies of both Republics, and, as the Mexican Government could not by reason of the disorganized condition of their border States control the rebel authorities when such were in power, or punish the bandits, it would be an insult to that Government were we to consider the latter entitled to the benefit of a refuge in Mexico, when by a prompt use of our troops they could be reached. In the same spirit I have ordered that when Mexican troops should cross the Rio Grande in pursuit of Indian raiders from this side, they should be treated as if they belonged to our own army.

The efficiency of a Republican Government in maintaining peace and order among its own people depends very much on the character of the people. We cannot make the Mexican people anew but as far as concerns the opinion they hold of the United States and its citizens we may, perhaps, extend our good influence by removing unjust prejudices; and, if coffee can be grown there and delivered at our door for ten cents the pound and sugar at three, we can, with advantage to us, help them to make it safe to grow coffee and sugar under their own Government and to build the railroads to bring it to our market. Perhaps the coffee and sugar planters would let us do this if we could convince them that we will promote our own interests by so doing more than if we annexed their coffee and sugar growing districts. The building of railroads across the western Texas plains would soon follow and settle the Indian and cattle raiding questions.

E. O. C. ORD,
Brigadier General U. S. Army,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 12, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 1.

I. The Court of Inquiry instituted per paragraph I, Special Orders No. 37, and paragraph II, Special Orders No. 46, current series, from these Headquarters, of which Colonel *H. B. Clitz*, 10th Infantry, is President, on the application of First Lieutenant *B. M. Custer*, 24th Infantry, "to investigate and report upon the facts connected with certain allegations made by one *Charles Robinett* in communication to Captain *C. B. Penrose*, Commissary of Subsistence, U.S. Army, Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Department of Texas, under date of January 24, 1877, and reflections contained in an endorsement of Commissary General of Subsistence, dated January 23, 1877, on postal card of Mr. *Robinett* to his office under date of January 12, 1877, against Lieutenant *Custer*," has submitted the following:

"The Court, having carefully examined into the allegations against Lieutenant *B. M. Custer*, 24th Infantry, made by Mr. *Charles Robinett* in his letter of the 24th January, 1877, to Captain *C. B. Penrose*, C. S., Department of Texas, and in his postal card of January 12, 1877, to the Commissary General of Subsistence, and also the reflections made by the Commissary General of Subsistence in his endorsement of January 23, 1877, on the said postal card of Mr. *Charles Robinett*, of January 12, 1877, find these accusations, from all the testimony within its reach, groundless. The Court is therefore of opinion that no further action in the case is necessary."

II. The foregoing proceedings and findings are approved.

III. The Court of Inquiry instituted per paragraph I, Special Orders No. 37, and paragraph II, Special Orders No. 46, current series, from these Headquarters, is dissolved.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 2, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 2.

In compliance with instructions from Headquarters of the Army, of April 26, 1877, the following posts are designated as depots at which prisoners sentenced to confinement in the Leavenworth Military Prison may be collected from the several posts in the Department:

Those from Forts Clark, Concho, Davis, Duncan, McKavett, Stockton and San Felipe, at the Post of San Antonio.

Those from Fort McIntosh and Ringgold Barracks at Fort Brown.

Those from Fort Griffin at Fort Richardson.

Prisoners will only be forwarded from the depots to the Military Prison by orders from these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 12, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 3.

I. The two posts of Forts Richardson and Griffin, and the part of Texas north of the southern lines of Jones, Shackelford and Buchanan counties, and west of the 96th meridian, will constitute the District of the Upper Brazos. Lieutenant Colonel *J. W. Davidson*, 10th Cavalry, is assigned to the command.

II. No regular reports or returns of this District will be required, or staff officers detailed for duty at headquarters, the object being simply to control the movements of troops and such operations as necessary to make them effective.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 26, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 4.

The following allowance of mules at the several posts in this Department is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

DRAUGHT ANIMALS.

At one company posts, ...16,
At two company posts, ...26,
At three company posts, ...32,
and six mules for each additional company.

At posts where it is necessary to haul water from a distance, as at Richardson, Griffin, Concho, Clark, Stockton, &c., one eight-mule team in addition will be allowed at each, excepting at Clark, where two are authorized.

PACK ANIMALS.

At each post garrisoned by cavalry, twelve pack mules for each company.

Company commanders will receipt to the post quartermaster for the pack animals assigned to their companies; when not enough mules are on hand to furnish the prescribed allowance, requisition for the number required will be made.

Post commanders will see that the terms of this order are carried out, and will inspect each company pack train at every inspection, report its condition and the amount of care taken with it, and see that a proper detail of the company is made to teach the duties of packing, unpacking, &c.

Where a garrison is reduced by the transfer of a company, a corresponding transfer of means of transportation will be made, but such transfer shall not be made except by authority from these Headquarters.

NOTE.—*This order does not cover the train to be organized for special field service in District of the Nueces, for which special instructions will be given hereafter.*

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 3, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 5.

Hereafter, all communications, telegraphic or written, which relate to the business operations of posts in this Department, or alterations of supplies or material necessary to its garrison, and which staff officers on duty at said posts may find it advisable to communicate to chiefs of staff at these Headquarters, will be sent through the post commanders and be addressed to the Assistant Adjutant General, Department Headquarters.

This order will not apply to the returns of funds or material called for under general regulations; to replies to queries from chiefs of staff departments as to the condition or quantity of supplies, material on hand, or the amount of funds on hand, or needed, to carry out general or special purposes.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 3, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 6.

I. The Court of Inquiry instituted per paragraph I, Special Orders No. 135, current series, from these Headquarters, of which Lieutenant Colonel J. S. MASON, 4th Infantry, is President, on the application of Captain *E. D. Baker*, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Army, to "investigate alleged irregularities in his accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877," has submitted the following:

"That the names of W. R. Story and J. B. Lacoste appear on the rolls of the Depot Quartermaster, that of Story on the rolls for July, and that of Lacoste on the rolls for September, 1876, and that they did not render the specified service for which they were reported and paid; that during the period in which these irregularities occurred Captain *Baker* was performing the duties of Chief Quartermaster of the Department of Texas, in the absence of Lieutenant Colonel Perry, the Chief Quartermaster, in addition to the duties of his own office of Depot Quartermaster, and that a large mass of papers passed through those offices requiring the action of Captain *Baker*, in both capacities; that he had necessarily to rely to a great extent on his subordinates to see that papers presented to him had been properly compared, and were correct; that the rolls in question contain a large number of entries, and that an error might be made in them without being detected by a person having them properly presented to him for signature; and while the Court does not desire to excuse or approve of the signing of vouchers by an officer without a full investigation, in extenuation must be urged the multiplicity of duties placed upon Captain *Baker* by reason of his acting in two capacities; that Captain *Baker's* attention was not called to the irregularities until some eight months after, when it was called to the facts by the Commanding General of the Department, on a report made by the Chief Quartermaster, Lieutenant Colonel Perry; that, had the usual opportunity been offered to Captain *Baker* to make an explanation and the necessary corrections on his rolls before this report was made to the Commanding General, such satisfactory explanation might have been made (it being a well known fact that the chief clerk of Captain *Baker*, who had charge of

these rolls, had been discharged for certain irregularities and being untrustworthy) as to have rendered the report unnecessary. The Court is further of the opinion that the names in question were inserted in these rolls by a dishonest clerk, without the knowledge of Captain *Baker* or by his authority, and after they had been signed by him; that no necessity existed for these irregular entries, as these amounts could have been paid; that services were rendered by the parties which entitled them to the same compensation as they received; and that there is no evidence of fraud on the part of Captain *Baker* in these transactions, but that an error had been made, to which, had his attention been properly called, it would have been readily corrected.

The Court is further of the opinion that no further action is necessary in this matter, other than to afford Captain *Baker* an opportunity to make the necessary corrections by a supplementary report."

II. The foregoing proceedings, findings and opinion are approved.

III. The Court of Inquiry instituted per paragraph I, Special Orders No. 135, current series, from these Headquarters, is dissolved.

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Official:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 6, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 7.

The following rules governing target practice in this Department are adopted and will be carried into effect:

Firing at all distances up to 300 yards shall be standing; from 300 to 450 yards, kneeling; over that distance, lying. Artificial rests will not be used.

For all distances up to 300 yards the target shall be 4x6 feet and shall have the following divisions marked on its face, viz:

BULL'S EYE.—Circle 8 inches in diameter, colored black.
CENTRE.—Circle 26 inches in diameter.
INNER.—Circle 46 inches in diameter.
OUTER.—The remainder of the target.

For all distances from 300 to 600 yards the target shall be 6x6 feet.

BULL'S EYE.—Circle 22 inches in diameter.
CENTRE.—Circle 38 inches in diameter.
INNER.—Circle 54 inches in diameter.
OUTER.—The remainder of the target.

The black lines describing the centre and inner divisions will not exceed half an inch in width.

SCORING.

Bull's eyes count	5.
Centres count	4.
Inners count	3.
Outers count	2.

SIGNALING.

A marker will signal each shot, using for that purpose a disc at least one foot in diameter, painted white for bull's eyes, red for centres, black and white for inners, and black for outers.

Practice will take place once a week, the day to be selected by the post commander, and the attendance of all men of the companies (excepting the sick, necessary hospital attendants, guard, bakers and one company cook) will be required.

Reports of the firing will be rendered, weekly, to post commanders, who will forward them to these Headquarters

on the last day of each month. These company reports will give the distance from the firing point; the strength and direction of the wind, whether across or oblique, with or against the line of fire; the number of shots fired; number of hits; the score and name of the best shot, and the name of each absentee, with cause of absence. Company commanders will, in person, verify the scoring.

Post commanders will give this practice their personal attention. They will inspect all targets, adding at the foot of each report such remarks in regard to arms and ammunition as practice may render necessary or proper. During continued bad weather they will cause simulated practice to be held in company quarters.

Under the provisions of paragraph II, General Orders No. 103, series of 1874, from the War Department, Adjutant General's Office, ten ball cartridges per man, per month, are authorized for target practice, and they will be used three and two each alternate week.

It is the purpose of the Department Commander to publish in the "Army and Navy Journal" the regiment and letters of the companies where monthly reports show the best and worst average shooting; and to stimulate their men to do their best, company commanders should reward the best shot, after each day's practice, by excusing such from some duty. The soldier is armed so that he may, in battle, hurt somebody with his rifle, and the sooner he learns to do so the better the soldier.

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

J. H. TAYLOR,

Official: *Assistant Adjutant General.*

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 22, 1877.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 8.

Major *C. M. Terrell*, Pay Department, having reported at these Headquarters in compliance with paragraph I, Special Orders No. 178, current series, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, is announced as Chief Paymaster of the Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 5, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all officers serving in this Department:

Proceedings of courts-martial in this Department against sentinels for neglect, such as allowing storehouses to be entered, prisoners to escape, &c., show that proper precautions to fix responsibility are not taken before or when the sentinels are posted; in some instances three sentinels of different reliefs are charged with the same offense, showing that a careful examination is not made when the sentinel is posted to ascertain that all is right and thereby fix the responsibility, should any loss or damage occur from that time to the next examination on that one sentinel.

Wire gratings should cover all inlets to the cells, save the doors, and compliance with the requirements of paragraphs I, II and III, General Orders No. 1, series of 1876, from these Headquarters, strictly enforced.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 27, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

For the information of all concerned the following extracts from the reports of target practice of the Department of Texas for the month of January, 1877, showing the best and the worst shooting, is hereby announced.

DATE.	Regiment.	Company.	Size of target, inches.	Distance in yards	Number of shots.	Number of hits.	Average distance from centre, in inches.	
January 15	10th Inf.	A	72-110	500	48	36	28	Ft McKavett, Capt. Lacey.
January 8.	25th Inf.	A	72-22	200	26	4	7	Ft Davis, Capt. French.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 27, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

Hereafter subsistence supplies unfit for issue by reason of deterioration from age or other cause will not be sold to officers or enlisted men; but a report showing their cost and giving recommendation as to price at which they should be disposed of will be prepared by the Acting Commissary of Subsistence and transmitted, through proper channels, to the Commissary General of Subsistence.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 28, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

Post commanders will direct the quartermasters at their posts that Circular Letter No. 19, series of 1876, from these Headquarters, in regard to the reduction of the forage ration, is not intended to affect the receipt of forage from contractors, who will, in every instance, be notified that a full allowance of forage for all the public animals will be required; the object of the reduction being to accumulate sufficient supplies to meet demands until the new contracts for the ensuing year can go into effect.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 9, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

The following subsistence stores:—5 barrels flour, 534 pounds beans, 304 pounds coffee, 6 pounds tea, 308 pounds brown sugar, 81 pounds candles, 72 pounds dried apples, 43 pounds breakfast bacon, 65 pounds choice coffee, 32 pounds sugar cured ham, 28 pounds lard, 273 pounds cut loaf sugar, 361 pounds granulated sugar, 75 pounds tobacco, 15 pounds vermicelli, and 2¼ gallons molasses, for which Second Lieutenant *F. H. Mills*, 24th Infantry, Acting Commissary of Subsistence at Fort McIntosh, is responsible, having been found short by a Board of Survey convened at that post per paragraph II, Special Orders No. 12, current series, from post Headquarters, said shortage having occurred between the 3rd day of February, 1877, when last verified and found correct, and the 5th day of March, 1877, the date of the death of Commissary Sergeant *W. H. Wright*, U. S. Army, and from the circumstances and facts of the case, the Board being of the opinion that Lieutenant *Mills* cannot be held responsible for the loss of the stores in question but that Sergeant *Wright*, without his knowledge, sold them for his own personal interest; post commanders will, in future, direct their post commissaries of subsistence to exercise more vigilance over the commissary sergeants, and examine their stores more frequently than has been done heretofore.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 16, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

The attention of post commanders is called to the issue of bacon under existing Department orders, and will exercise care not to exceed the allowance, except in case of necessity, or when the ration of fresh beef cannot be procured at a less cost than the ration of bacon.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 25, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

Hereafter, when officers in this Department send telegrams to these Headquarters they will send official copies of the same by the first mail thereafter.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 19, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

The following instructions from the War Department have been received and are published for the governance of all concerned:

"Relative to the payment of official postage of the United States Army after July 1, proximo, and in the absence of army appropriation therefor, the Secretary of War has endorsed the following order on an opinion from the Postmaster General:

Each Military Department will be furnished the official stamps required for its command, except as hereinafter provided, upon requisition upon the Adjutant General of the Army; such requisition to be made quarterly by the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department.

Military Divisions will be supplied in a similar manner. Adjutants of posts, and of troops serving in the field, will draw upon the Assistant Adjutant General at Department Headquarters.

Heads of bureaus and offices in the War Department will supply officers of their respective corps both in and out of Washington city.

The Adjutant General and other heads of bureaus will cause suitable rules to be established for the accountability of the stamps issued, and will make requisition therefor quarterly, in advance, on the Secretary of War for transmission to the Postmaster General, and such requisitions should be sent to this office not later than the twentieth of the month preceding the quarters to be drawn for."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General,

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 3, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

These Headquarters, and the offices and depots connected therewith, will be closed on Wednesday, the 4th of July—the 101st anniversary of the independence of the United States of America.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 6, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

The Circular from these Headquarters of June 19, 1877, relative to the payment of official postage of the United States Army, after July 1st, 1877, is amended to read: Adjutants of posts will forward their requisitions to these Headquarters not later than the *tenth* of the month preceding the quarter to be drawn for.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 25, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

Hereafter, the new route *via* Kerrville, Texas, will be the route over which payments for transportation to Forts McKavett and Concho, from San Antonio, Texas, will be computed.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 27, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

The order of the Department Commander will hereafter be necessary for the purchase of all supplies in open market, and such order must be obtained before the purchase is made, otherwise it will not be approved. All applications for authority to purchase will be forwarded by the officer concerned, through proper military channels, to the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department, for submittal to the General Commanding.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 18, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

It has become a common occurrence of late for Boards of Survey to neglect attaching to their proceedings copies or extracts of invoices, bills of lading, and other documentary evidence to sustain their findings.

Hereafter, bills of lading, or such portions as are referred to in the proceedings, should be properly filled out so as to coincide in all particulars with that laid before the Board by the officer responsible in the matter.

When a necessary exhibit cannot be obtained it will be so stated, and the reasons why.

Post commanders should require the proper papers to be attached to the proceedings before forwarding them to these Headquarters for approval.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 21, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

In accordance with telegraphic authority granted by the Adjutant General of the Army, under date of December 20, 1877, meritorious soldiers may be re-enlisted at the posts where they may be stationed on expiration of their terms of enlistment.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 22, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

Acting Commissaries of Subsistence at posts in this Department will pay all outstanding indebtedness, and transfer to office of Chief Commissary of Subsistence of the Department, their remaining funds in accordance with paragraph I, Special Orders No. 7, from these Headquarters, series of 1874.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 11, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 1.

I. The attention of the Department Commander having been called to the practice of officers leaving their companies, trains, or escorts, to take care of themselves when they get within an early ride of a post or town, and when their presence is more needed with their commands than at any other time, post commanders are notified that when such officers, if their juniors, come under their command, or as soon as they reach posts commanded by them and until they leave such posts, will be expected, hereafter, to promptly report *to these Headquarters by telegraph* all such cases of absence from their guard, party, or other duty, so that another officer may be detailed to take charge of the party left without a commander.

II. Hereafter when officers responsible for clothing find it necessary to present the same to a Board of Survey to examine and report upon its damaged condition, or when found not up to the standard, they will furnish the Board, when bad blankets or other clothing are found, the date the blankets, etc., were shipped to the post, the marks, the name of inspector, contractor, or manufacturer.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 22, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2. }

I. A District is constituted, to be called the "District of the Pecos," to include Fort Concho and the country watered by the affluents of the Concho river west of that post, also all that part of the State bounded as follows: along the 101st meridian extending south from Concho river to parallel of latitude 31° north, along that parallel west to meridian line 102° west, along that meridian south to parallel of latitude 30° north, along that parallel west to meridian line of 103° west, and along that meridian south to the Rio Bravo, and up that stream to the meridian of 105° west, up that to the northwest line of Texas, and along that to the 101st meridian.

Colonel *B. H. Grierson*, 10th Cavalry, will command the District; his Headquarters, for the present, will be at Fort Concho.

II. That part of Texas north of latitude 30° 30′ and east of the 101st meridian not included in the District of the Pecos will compose a new District, to be called the "District of North Texas," to the command of which Colonel *H. B. Clitz*, 10th Infantry, is assigned.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 2, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 3.

Major *T. M. Vincent*, Assistant Adjutant General, U. S. Army, having reported at these Headquarters in accordance with paragraph III, Special Orders No. 256, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1877, is announced as Assistant Adjutant General of the Department—to date from the 1st instant.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. S. MASON,
Act. Assist. Inspector Gen'l,
In charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 13, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 4.

I. The attention of Post Commanders and Boards of Survey is called to paragraph XV, General Orders No. 21, from these Headquarters, series of 1875.

Cases are of frequent occurrence where Boards have relieved the contractor from all responsibility for delays or damage, and wherein the failure to notify the Quartermaster, or other officer to whom the stores may have been consigned, of the finding of the Board, that the same might be endorsed on bill of lading, has caused a long delay in the settlement with the contractor, greatly to his detriment.

II. The non-observance of existing requirements, in making up notices for the Pay Department of men to be discharged, is a cause of much hardship to the men when they present themselves to the paymaster for final payment. This is particularly the case with enlisted men who are unable to write their names. The object of the notices is to enable the paymaster to clearly identify the men, and thus avoid loss to himself, and hardship to the men.

In future, the form of blank herewith appended will be used in all cases of discharge in this Department, and all blanks for said notices of a different form will, at once, be destroyed.

III. When escorts leave their posts and it is necessary for them to pass through other posts, the commander of the escort will be furnished with a written statement showing the number of days for which it may have been supplied with subsistence and forage.

As rapidly as other issues shall have been made, the respective officers of the Quartermaster's and Subsistence Departments will endorse them on the statement.

The course indicated will prevent duplicate issues for the same period, now sometimes made under verbal orders and statements.

IV. Under paragraph V, General Orders No. 86, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1867, the certificate of a medical officer as to the amount of the "*back-rations*" which are necesary for the "health and comfort" of the troops will be furnished when there is a medical officer serving with the command. When there is not a medical officer, the certificate of the company commander, approved by the post commander, will be furnished. In either case, the certificate will be filed with the abstract of issues.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

A. A. General
Dep. of the Ariz.
No. 1 H. 1876

☞ *Separate notice to be be sent for each man to be discharged.* ☜

Fort————————————,

————————————, 187 .

To the Chief Paymaster,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

Sir:

The following named enlisted man of———————— *Regiment of*————, *will be discharged from the service on the*——*day of*————, 187 , *by reason of*————— ——.

His signature, made in my presence, is given below:

NAME.	RANK.	SIGNATURE, OR PERSONAL DESCRIPTION, OF THE MAN.

Very respectfully,

————————————

————————————

NOTE.—The signature of the soldier is required for the purpose of identification. In all cases, where the soldier cannot write his name, his person should be so clearly described that he will have no trouble or delay in his identification and payment when he presents his papers to the paymaster. This can usually be done by citing some personal peculiarity, or by wounds, scars, or other marks, on his person. This notice should be mailed at least a month before expiration of term of service.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 19, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 5.

I. The word "early" in fourth line of paragraph I, General Orders No. 1, current series, from these Headquarters, is amended to read "easy."

II. The tenth paragraph of General Orders No. 7, series of 1877, from these Headquarters, is amended to read: "twenty ball cartridges per man, per month;" thus conforming to paragraph I, General Orders No. 95, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1877.

They will be used at the rate of five each week.

The reports will be rendered bi-monthly, as required by General Orders No. 95, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, October 4, 1877, instead of monthly, as required by General Orders No. 7, September 6, 1877, from these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 26, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 6.

Under authority from the War Department, First Lieutenant *E. O. Gibson*, 10th Infantry, is announced as Acting Judge Advocate of the Department—to take effect April 1, 1878. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 18, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 7.

I. The Court of Inquiry, of which Colonel *R. S. Mackenzie*, 4th Cavalry, is President, instituted by paragraph VII, Special Orders No. 27, and paragraph I, Special Orders No. 35, current series, from these headquarters, on the application of Lieutenant Colonel *William R. Shafter*, 24th Infantry, "to investigate and report upon the facts connected with certain allegations made by Second Lieutenant *E. P. Turner*, 10th Cavalry," after an examination of all the witnesses whose names are attached to the allegations made against Lieutenant Colonel *Shafter*, has expressed the opinion that but one of the specifications is sustained, and that, only in such part as does not involve offense, and that the whole matter grew out of irresponsible camp talk, and an insubordinate spirit towards Lieutenant Colonel *Shafter*, and recommends that so far as he is concerned no further proceedings in the case be had.

II. The proceedings, findings and recommendation are approved.

III. The Court of Inquiry of which Colonel *R. S. Mackenzie*, 4th Cavalry, is President, is hereby dissolved.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 26, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 8.

Major *B. C. Card*, Quartermaster U. S. Army, having reported in accordance with paragraph VI, Special Orders No. 57, current series, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, is assigned to duty as Chief Quartermaster of the Department—to date from the 25th instant.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 4, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 9.

The following extracts from orders and instructions, relative to the crossing of United States troops into Mexico, in pursuit of marauders, have been compiled from the original official communications, and are promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

[Secretary of War, June 1, 1877, to the General of the Army; transmitted by latter, through the Lieutenant General commanding Military Division of the Missouri, to commanding General Department of Texas.]

"The President desires that the utmost vigilance on the part of the military forces in Texas be exercised for the suppression of these raids. It is very desirable that efforts to this end, in so far at least as they necessarily involve operations on both sides of the border, be made with the co-operation of the Mexican authorities; and you will instruct General Ord, commanding in Texas, to invite such co-operation on the part of the local Mexican authorities, and to inform them that while the President is anxious to avoid giving offense to Mexico, he is nevertheless convinced that the invasion of our territory by armed and organized bodies of thieves and robbers, to prey upon our citizens, should not be longer endured.

General Ord will at once notify the Mexican authorities along the Texas border of the great desire of the President to unite with them in efforts to suppress this long continued lawlessness. At the same time he will inform those authorities that if the Government of Mexico shall continue to neglect the duty of suppressing these outrages, that duty will devolve upon this Government, and will be performed, even if its performance should render necessary the occasional crossing of the border by our troops. You will, therefore, direct General Ord that in case the lawless incursions continue he will be at liberty, in the use of his own discretion, when in pursuit of a band of the marauders, and when his troops are either in sight of them or upon a fresh trail, to follow them across the Rio Grande, and to overtake and punish them, as well as retake stolen property taken from our citizens and found in their hands on the Mexican side of the line."

[Commanding General Department of Texas, June 9, 1877, to the commanding officer District of the Rio Grande.]

" The Brigadier General Commanding (in connection with orders of the Secretary of War dated June 1, 1877,) directs

that you confer with the Mexican authorities and invite co-operation. Local Mexican authorities will be notified in every instance, when practicable, of our troops crossing into Mexico, under the instructions of the Secretary of War; and such authorities will be furnished with particulars of the raid, character of raiders and of property taken, to enable them, when practicable, to co-operate in the capture of the robbers, and return of the stolen property.

Military commanders, while on Mexican soil, will maintain discipline and prevent injury to persons or property of peaceable citizens, by prompt execution of sentences of military commissions, when such may become necessary, or by such other summary action as may be called for. Supplies will, in all cases, be paid for in cash, and every means taken to cultivate the most friendly relations with the local authorities or with commanders of any troops, which may be sent to co-operate with those of the United States.

As the parties, who have been committing the raids, are either bandits and enemies of civilization in both countries, wild Indians, who live in the mountains, remote from settlements—at times in Mexico and at other times in the United States—and who commit raids on either side, as opportunity offers, the same courtesy* and co-operation will be extended to Mexican troops, who may, when in pursuit of such raiders, cross into the United States, as we would be pleased to receive from them, when operating on their side of the river.

United States troops will not remain beyond the border any longer than absolutely necessary to carry out the orders of the Secretary of War."

[General of the Army, June 9, 1877, to the Lieutenant General commanding Military Division of the Missouri; and by latter to Commanding General Department of Texas.]

"The Secretary of War, has received, through the State Department, a letter from Mr. Foster, our Minister at the city of Mexico, dated May 28, 1877, in which he says the President of the Mexican republic is at last awakened to the importance of repressing outlawry on the Texas frontier; that he will send a prudent general to that frontier, with an adequate force and instructions to co-operate cordially to that end with General Ord. * * * *

The Secretary of War wants you to instruct General Ord to meet this offer of reciprocity cordially, to meet or correspond with the Mexican general thus sent to the frontier,

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NOTE.—*This courtesy and co-operation must not be considered as applicable to revolutionists. All persons of that class, who may cross from Mexico, will be disarmed and interned, under the orders of the War Department, March 10, 1876, to the commanding General Department of Texas, as follows:

"The Acting Secretary of War directs that you prevent any revolutionary movements from our side, and also all military expeditions in aid of the revolutionists, and all violations of neutrality; also, to arrest, disarm and intern any troops who may cross from Mexico."

and not to be hasty in pursuit across the border except in an aggravated case."

[Secretary of War, July 14, 1877, to the Commanding General Department of Texas.]

"The Secretary further communicates to yon that your orders heretofore given are in all things confirmed. They do not contemplate your passing the border in pursuit when there is a Mexican force ready to execute the duty of snppressing and pnnishing these predatory incursions into our territory.

When a Mexican force is present to intercept retreating raiders, you will leave the performance of that duty on the Mexican side of the line to such force.

In each case report promptly the occurrence, and the resnlt of the Mexican dealing with the marauders."

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,

Official: *Assistant Adjutant General.*

Aide-de-Camp.

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As the parties, who have been committing the raids, are either bandits and enemies of civilization in both countries, wild Indians, who live in the mountains, remote from settlements—at times in Mexico and at other times in the United States—and who commit raids on either side, as opportunity offers, the same courtesy* and co-operation will be extended to Mexican troops, who may, when in pursuit of such raiders, cross into the United States, as we would be pleased to receive from them, when operating on their side of the river.

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[General of the Army, June 9, 1877, to the Lieutenant General commanding Military Division of the Missouri; and by latter to Commanding General Department of Texas.]

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and not to be hasty in pursuit across the border except in an aggravated case."

[Secretary of War, July 14, 1877, to the Commanding General Department of Texas.]

"The Secretary further communicates to you that your orders heretofore given are in all things confirmed. They do not contemplate your passing the border in pursuit when there is a Mexican force ready to execute the duty of suppressing and punishing these predatory incursions into our territory.

When a Mexican force is present to intercept retreating raiders, you will leave the performance of that duty on the Mexican side of the line to such force.

In each case report promptly the occurrence, and the result of the Mexican dealing with the marauders."

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,

Official: *Assistant Adjutant General.*

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 20, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 10.

Until further orders, the extra duty men in the Quartermaster's Department at the several posts within this command shall not exceed the following allotments, viz:

At each military post, two—with an increase where there are four, or less, companies at the post, at the rate of three for each company.

When the garrison exceeds four companies, two additional, for each company in excess of four companies, will be allowed.

One will be allowed for each band.

The companies and band must be actually on duty at the post concerned.

Of this allowance no more than one-third will be rated as artificers, overseers of artificers, or entitled to the thirty-five cents per diem compensation.

Whenever the exigencies of the case may demand the services of additional extra duty men at any post, the post commander must make special application to these headquarters for authority to detail them, and the authority must be obtained before placing such additional men on the extra duty roll.

This order will take effect from the 1st of July, next.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 13, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 11.

Captain *W. R. Livermore*, Corps of Engineers, having reported at these headquarters in accordance with paragraph VII, Special Orders No. 106, current series, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, is assigned to duty as Chief Engineer Officer of this Department—to date from the 10th instant.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 21, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 12.

I. Hereafter, at all posts in this Department, Post Commanders, on application of their Post Quartermasters, will furnish the necessary details for restacking the native hay, whenever the officer responsible therefor may consider that course necessary.

II. Hereafter, on the copy of the monthly post return, *forwarded to these headquarters*, the column "Enlisted men, present, on extra or daily duty," will be divided, so that one column shall show the number on *daily*, and the other the number on *extra*, duty. A note will be appended to the latter number showing how many at 35 cents per diem, and how many at 20 cents per diem.

On each copy of post orders detailing enlisted men on extra duty, forwarded to these headquarters, it will be stated how many men there are on extra duty at the post, including the detail made by the order.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 26, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 13.

Under authority from the Adjutant General of the Army, Second Lieutenant *W. T. Howard*, 2nd Artillery, is announced as Acting Judge Advocate of the Department, *vice* First Lieutenant *E. O. Gibson*, Adjutant 10th Infantry, who is hereby relieved, at his own request, on account of disability from wounds.

He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry.
Act. Asst. Inspector Gen'l, in charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 21, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 14.

I. The Court of Inquiry, of which Lieutenant Colonel *J. S. Mason*, 4th Infantry, is President, instituted by paragraph I, Special Orders No. 228, current series, from these headquarters, on the application of Captain *J. I. Rodgers*, 2nd Artillery, "*for the purpose of inquiring into certain charges made against him*," having maturely considered the evidence adduced, has expressed the opinion that no further proceedings are necessary to be taken on the charges and specifications referred to it for investigation.

II. The proceedings, findings and opinion are approved.

III. The Court of Inquiry of which Lieutenant Colonel *J. S. Mason*, 4th Infantry, is President, is hereby dissolved.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 14, 1878.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 15.

I. To correct some misapprehension which has existed, and to prevent an increase of records and correspondence, it is announced that district commands are constituted to enable troops, within certain limits, to move and co-operate, promptly. They are not intended to change, in any respect, the system of supply for posts, cantonments, or camps, nor will they lead to additional returns and reports, or channels of communication, except as herein provided.

Official communications relating to, or that might call for movements, or operations, of troops or officers, will be sent to district headquarters; and when prompt action is necessary, it will be taken by district commanders.

The foregoing is not intended, in an urgent case, to prevent post commanders from *direct* communication, or from acting on their own responsibility; report, however, to be made to the district commander.

All movements of troops, or officers, will be reported by telegraph, at once, to department headquarters.

Other communications, such as those relating to supplies, funds, and government property; proceedings of boards of survey; certificates of disability for discharge; papers that have received, or may require, the action of a General Court Martial, or Court of Inquiry, &c., will be sent through, or by, post commanders to department headquarters, *direct*.

II. Camps, or cantonments, save for grazing purposes, will not be established except under orders from department headquarters, to which due application will be forwarded through, or by, district commanders.

III. In addition to the reports required by General Orders No. 3, series of 1876, from these headquarters, a report of fuel and forage received and issued during the month, will be rendered monthly, direct to the Chief Quartermaster.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 11, 1878.

[CIRCULAR.]

No. 1.

So much of Circular of July 27, 1877, from these Headquarters, as directed that the order of the Department Commander would hereafter be necessary for the purchase of all supplies in open market, and that such order must be obtained before the purchase was made, otherwise it would not be approved, is rescinded. The approval of the Department Commander is deemed sufficient.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 26, 1878.

[CIRCULAR No. 2.]

It has been of frequent occurrence of late at some of the posts in this Department for Boards of Survey to await the arrival of stores, expected in succession on several bills of lading, before making up their proceedings; and in some cases the proceedings have not reached these Headquarters for two months, or more, after some of the stores have been delivered at their destination

The attention of post commanders is particularly called to this fact, and, in future, they will require Boards of Survey to make up their proceedings with as little delay as practicable after the arrival of each invoice of stores at the post and not to await probable or anticipated shipments.

Attention is also called to the unnecessary delay of officers in calling for a Board to determine and fix the responsibility for loss or damage to public property for which they are responsible.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 11, 1878.

[CIRCULAR NO. 3.]

The following is promulgated for the guidance of all concerned:

[TELEGRAM.]

"ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *January* 15, 1878.

General Ord,
San Antonio, Texas.

Secretary of War, and the General of the Army, have decided that, to strengthen other organizations, the maximum strength of cavalry regiments shall be eight hundred and fifty (850).

E. D. TOWNSEND.
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 1, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 4.

The following regulations relative to certain enlisted men, and transportation, at the *Post of San Antonio*, are promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

1.—Enlisted men arriving on detached service, or otherwise, will report, or if in charge of a commissioned officer be reported by him, to the post commander. The post commander will examine their orders, look after their subsistence and lodging, and, if necessary, make written report to these headquarters for orders or instructions.

2.—All transportation arriving will be promptly reported to the Depot Quartermaster.

Attention is invited to the requirements of General Orders Nos. 12 and 15, series of 1876, from these headquarters.

3.—When transportation is about to be sent hence, the Depot Quartermaster will give timely notice to the post commander, with the view that it may be made available in sending enlisted men, if any, at the post to their companies; like notice will be given to the Depot Commissary of Subsistence, in order that, in connection with his duties, he may make the transportation available, if necessary.

4.—In cases where non-commissioned officers, or other enlisted men, are sent to obtain or care for stores, or property, *en route* to posts, the post commander will look to their complying with the instructions under which they may be acting, and, if necessary, invite the attention of the Depot Quartermaster, and Depot Commissary of Subsistence, to anything that may require special attention.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

NOTE.—Circular January 11, relating to approval of Department Commander for purchase of certain supplies, will be numbered 1; Circular January 26, relating to Boards of Survey, will be numbered 2; Circular March 11, fixing strength of cavalry regiments, will be numbered 3.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 13, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 5.

The following is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, April 1, 1878.

To the Commanding General,
Department of Texas.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, in order to facilitate indexing, the Secretary of War directs that in addition to the present form of brief on the first fold of proceedings of Boards of Survey, the *purpose* of the examination to be made by the Board be stated, briefly, as in example hereto annexed.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

Paragraph XIV, General Orders No. 21, from these headquarters, series of 1875, is amended accordingly.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

PROCEEDINGS

OF A

BOARD OF SURVEY,

CONVENED AT

FORT BROWN, TEXAS,

By S. O. No. 51, Hdqrs. Dept. of Texas,
March 1, 1878.

PURPOSE:

To examine and report upon a quantity of damaged *subsistence stores*, for which Capt. JAMES JOHNSON, Commissary of Subsistence, is responsible.

PRESIDENT,

Major JAMES BROWN, 1st Cavalry.

RECORDER,

Lieut. WILLIAM SMITH, 2nd Infantry.

RECEIVED
MAY 7 1878
ADJ'T GEN'L'S OFFICE

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 1, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 6.

The following is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.
WASHINGTON, *April* 20, 1878.

The Secretary of War directs that the attention of officers of the Army doing duty in the Quartermaster's Department, be directed to the fact that the permission given in Circular of the War Department, Adjutant General's Office, of November 15, 1877, to advertise by *poster* or *circular letter*, is limited to cases of *emergency*, and generally to contracts or purchases of small amount, and is not intended to apply to annual contracts, or contracts involving large expenditures, for which there is usually time to advertise in newspapers, as required in the Circular.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 27, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 7.

Officers serving in the Quartermaster's Department within this command, will immediately after the end of the present fiscal year, pay and discharge from funds in their possession applicable thereto, all indebtedness of the Department properly incurred and payable at their respective stations on account of the appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department for said year.

Should any of them not have sufficient funds in their possession to pay such indebtedness, they will submit estimates, in the usual form, for the necessary funds.

On the first day of August, next, all officers in this command who may have in their possession funds pertaining to the appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department for the fiscal year 1877-'78, excepting such as shall have been remitted for the fulfillment of contracts made within, and chargeable to said appropriations for that fiscal year, and that may be required in the discharge of the indebtedness accruing under said contracts, will transfer the same to the Chief Quartermaster of the Department. They will forward after the first day of August, next, to the Chief Quartermaster, for settlement, all outstanding accounts, if any, chargeable to the appropriations mentioned; and, in forwarding such accounts, will report the post-office address of the respective claimants.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 6, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 8.

In compliance with the requirements of General Orders No. 26, current series, from the Headquarters of the Army, company commanders, and other officers, throughout the Department, will remove the *firing pin spring* from all service rifles and carbines for which they may be responsible.

Post commanders will report to these headquarters the dates of compliance, by the companies and detachments of their respective commands, with these instructions.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 11, 1878.

CIRCULAR No. 9.

The following is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 1, 1878.

[CIRCULAR.]

By direction of the Secretary of War, the following order is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

The number of clerks and messengers allowed to the Headquarters of Military Divisions and Departments will in no case exceed the number allowed in General Orders No. 30, of April 6, 1869, and No. 62, (section II,) of July 3, 1877, from these Headquarters.

No others of the class designated than those above prescribed will be sanctioned after July 1, 1878.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL SHERMAN:
E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

Under the foregoing, commutations for rations, fuel and quarters, are *confined* to the "*General Service*" clerks, topographical assistants, and messengers; thus excluding Hospital Stewards and Commissary Sergeants.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 12, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 10.

To meet the requirements usual at the close of a fiscal year, the Acting Commissary of Subsistence at each post in this Department will pay promptly, so far as practicable, for the year about to close, all outstanding indebtedness at his post, and immediately, after June 30, remit to the Chief Commissary of Subsistence at these headquarters, whatever balance of subsistence funds he may have on hand.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 21, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 11.

Upon receipt of the new pattern equipments by commanding officers of infantry companies throughout the Department, such articles of the pattern of 1872 equipments, with the exception of serviceable bayonet scabbards and canteens, as may be on hand, will be submitted to the action of an inspector, with a view to turning into the San Antonio Arsenal such of the articles as may be considered worth the cost of transportation, and dropping from returns those worn out in service.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,

OFFICIAL: *Assistant Adjutant General.*

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 24, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 12.

The reports called for in Circular Letter No. 3, series of 1877, from these headquarters, on the Metcalfe Detachable Cartridge Blocks, being no longer required by the Chief of Ordnance, all such blocks, together with the rifles issued with them, will be turned into the San Antonio Arsenal.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 6, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 13.

The commanding officers at the several posts in this Department will forward, at the earliest practicable date, a report of the kind and quantity of quartermaster's stores on hand in excess of the wants of the post for the current fiscal year, and take up and properly account for supplies, if any, pertaining to the Quartermaster's Department, which may be on hand and *not* accounted for on the regular property returns of the post.

A special report will be submitted to these headquarters of any stores so taken up.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 17, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 14.

The Circulars of June 19th and July 6th, 1877, respectively, from these headquarters, are revoked, and the following substituted therefor:

Official postage stamps, to be used only for official purposes, will be furnished to adjutants of posts and of troops in the field, upon requisition addressed to the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department.

Post Quartermasters, Post Acting Commissaries of Subsistence, Post Surgeons and Paymasters, will make requisitions addressed to the Chiefs of their respective Departments, at these headquarters.

The requisitions will be made quarterly, in advance, and forwarded so as to reach their destination not later than the 10th of the month preceding the quarter to be drawn for.

Forms of receipt, to cover the stamps, will, in all cases, be sent with each invoice, and be dated, signed and returned to the issuing officer, on the day on which the stamps are received.

On the first day of each quarter, every officer who may have received stamps from the Assistant Adjutant General, will render to that officer a *duplicate* statement of those expended during the preceding quarter, and of those on hand at the date of the report.

Whenever an officer accountable for stamps is relieved from duty, he will transfer all in his possession to his successor, taking duplicate receipts therefor, and *immediately* make a *return* of expenditures up to the day of his relief, which return, with *one* of the receipts, he will forward at once to the Assistant Adjutant General.

Blank forms will be supplied from Department Headquarters.

The practice of officers transferring postage stamps, for which they are responsible as Acting Assistant Quartermaster or Acting Commissary of Subsistence, to the Post Adjutant, or *vice versa*, is erroneous.

Post commanders will see that the requirements of this Circular are strictly complied with.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 13, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 15.

For the information of all concerned, the following extracts from the reports of Target Practice of the Department of Texas, for the months of May and June, 1878, showing the best and the worst shooting, is hereby announced:

Regiment.	*Company.*	*Distance—yards.*	*Number of Shots*	*Number of Hits.*	*Score.*	*Possible Score.*	*Per centum of Hits.*	*Per centum of Score.*	*Remarks.*
24th Infantry	F	100	585	576	2074	2925	98.46	70.90	May.
25th Infantry	I	100	265	262	971	1325	98.86	73.28	June.
4th Cavalry..	D	100	1349	803	2245	6745	59.51	33.13	May and June.
10th Cavalry.	E	100	955	746	2461	4700	78	52	June.
25th Infantry	1	200	260	208	648	1300	80	49.84	May.
25th Infantry	B	200	215	179	565	1075	83.2	52.5	June.
24th Infantry	C	200	65	21	69	325	32.30	21.23	May.
10th Cavalry	D	200	575	329	897	2875	57.21	31.20	June.
8th Cavalry.	H	100	16	16	70	80	100	87.50	Pvt. Granville Fletcher
24th Infantry	F	100	35	35	149	175	100	85.14	1st Sergt. William H. Goldsborongh.
10th Infantry	H	200	25	25	95	125	100	76	Private S. D. Neal.
4th Cavalry..	A	100	5	0	0	25	0	0	Three men.
24th Infantry	C	200	5	0	0	25	0	0	Four men.
10th Cavalry	D	200	10	0	0	50	0	0	Two men.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 17, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 16.

I. The following letter is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.
WASHINGTON, *September* 12, 1878.

Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

Sir:

With reference to your telegram of the 30th ultimo, stating that prisoners Ball and Ross, referred to in Special Orders No. 182, paragraph V, current series, from this office, were convicted of crimes not punishable under the laws of Texas by confinement in a penitentiary, I have the honor to inform you, the Secretary of War concurs in the opinion of the Judge Advocate General, that when a Court Martial has sentenced a prisoner to a *Military Prison* for any offense, no power is competent to increase the punishment by designating a *penitentiary* as the place of confinement.

It is to be hoped Courts will be instructed so, that they will not cause men convicted of penal offenses to be sent to the Leavenworth Prison, as it is desired to keep such criminals apart from those sentenced for military offenses not penal.

* * * * *

I am, sir,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

II. The relative rank of non-commissioned staff officers in a cavalry regiment has, from the Headquarters of the Army, been announced, as follows:

Sergeant Major.
Quartermaster Sergeant.
Saddler Sergeant.
Chief Trumpeter.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 23, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 17.

The following endorsement, from the Adjutant General's Office, relative to laundresses, under section 5, of the Act approved June 18, 1878, (General Orders No. 37, current series, Adjutant General's Office); and whether it is intended that the husbands of such laundresses may be re-enlisted, provided they be good and worthy soldiers, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"*3rd Endorsement.*
WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.
September 16, 1878.

Respectfully returned to the Commanding General Department of Texas.

Objection exists to the re-enlistment of the class of soldiers herein referred to; their wives cannot be recognized in any manner as laundresses, and it is understood the law and regulations prohibit enlistment of any married men.

[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 28, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 18.

I. The following, from the War Department, in reply to a communication from the Commanding General of this Department, inviting attention to the practical effect of a literal interpretation of the last paragraph of General Orders No. 49, current series, from the Adjutant General's Office, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

* * * * * *

"In *an emergency* a commander is authorized to disregard the long communication through intermediate channels, and may telegraph direct to the Adjutant General.

The *Posse Comitatus* law is not supposed to apply to repelling invasions of foreigners against United States territory; nor to protection of *U. S.* property against violence. As a citizen may defend his house against a robber, so the U. S. may defend its treasury, mails, etc., against lawless violence."

As it is impossible to protect United States property without protecting the officers in charge, in the view of the Department Commander the preceding paragraph authorizes the protection of an officer of the United States, civil or military, from violence by lawless bands, while in the execution of his office.

II. It has been further decided by the War Department, relative to the use of troops to arrest Indians off their reservation without permission, that * * * "The commanding officers of Departments are the proper persons to regulate when, and how detachments of men may be furnished under the laws, &c., governing, to assist Indian agents."

"Applications can accordingly be made to the Department Commanders for necessary aid by troops in such cases."

* * * * *

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 3, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 19.

The Post Quartermasters at the several posts in this Department, and the Depot Quartermaster at San Antonio, will forward to the Philadelphia depot of the Quartermaster's Department, invoiced to Captain *John S. Rodgers*, Military Storekeeper, all the old pattern *folded* campaign hats on hand at the respective stations, with a view to their being altered so as to conform to the new style, now being issued to the army.

Reports will be sent *direct* to the Chief Quartermaster of this Department of the number of old pattern campaign hats forwarded to Philadelphia; in case none are on hand, that fact will be reported.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 17, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 20.

Post commanders in this Department will investigate and report to these headquarters whether any yeast powders, issued under paragraph II, General Orders No. 86, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1877, to companies stationed at their posts, have been sold to post traders and others, and, if so, what amount, and if any has been returned to the Subsistence Department on the return of troops from scouts.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry,
Act. Asst. Inspector Gen'l, in charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 26, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 21.

The following recapitulation of target practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the months of July and August, is hereby announced:

BY REGIMENT.

RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	10TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 94 75.	85.71.
Per cent. of score, 68.67.	54.68.

RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.

24TH INFANTRY.	10TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 74.47.	59.16.
Per cent. of score, 45.85.	35.57.

BY COMPANY.

RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. H, 24TH INFANTRY.	Co. I, 24TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 98.77.	75.20.
Per cent. of score, 73.33.	49.84.

RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.

Co. E, 24TH INFANTRY.	Co. E, 10TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 95.38.	52.
Per cent. of score, 60.87.	29.65.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.

Best.	*Worst.*
Private Caspar Jortman, Co. M, 4th Cavalry.	Private Simon Schanighamer, Co. M, 8th Cavalry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 90.	0.

RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.

Private William Jones, Co. M, 8th Cavalry.	Private Albert Butler, Co. D, 10th Cavalry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 88.	0.

In order that proper comparisons may be made with a view to future instructions, it is directed that all target practice throughout the Department during the month of November be at 100 yards range, and the target records *for that month* be promptly forwarded at its termination.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry,
Act. Asst. Inspector Gen'l, in charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 6, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 22.

All carbine ball cartridges, calibre .45, manufactured during the months of July, August, September and October, 1875, which may be found on hand in companies or at posts throughout the Department, will be turned into the San Antonio Arsenal.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry,
Act. Asst. Inspector Gen'l, in charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 13, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 23.

So much of Circular No. 21, current series, from these headquarters, under the heading of "By Individual," as relates to Private *Simon Schanighamer*, Co. M, 8th Cavalry, being the worst shot, is amended to read: Private *Simon Schanighamer*, Co. *H*, 8th Cavalry.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 3, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 24.

The following decision. of the Secretary of War, is promulgated for the guidance of all concerned:

"A Board of Survey should take the best evidence obtainable; and, therefore, when stores are submitted for their action, the Board should have the stores weighed under their direction and not take evidence as to their weight; the testimony received by them should also be confined to the *facts* rather than the opinions of witnesses."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 9, 1878.

CIRCULAR
No. 25.

The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the months of September and October, is hereby announced:

BY REGIMENT.

RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	10TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 94.53.	85.65.
Per cent. of score, 68.60.	57.68.

RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.

20TH INFANTRY.	10TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 72.69.	60.56.
Per cent. of score, 44.50.	34.61.

BY COMPANY.

RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. H, 24TH INFANTRY.	Co. E, 10TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 99.72.	78.
Per cent. of score, 75.05.	47.20.

RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.

Co. H, 10TH INFANTRY.	Co. I, 24TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 78.20.	55.57.
Per cent. of score, 49.66.	32.30.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.

Best.	*Worst.*
Private Joseph Abraham, Co. K, 10th Infantry.	Private Daniel Brown, Co. F, 8th Cavalry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 92.—23 out of a possible 25.	0.
Sergeant William H. Deal, Co. A, 4th Cavalry.	Private William Corcoran, Co. A, 10th Infantry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 89.—89 out of a possible 100.	0.

RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.

Sergeant Benjamin Blue, Co. K, 10th Infantry.	Private Henry Williams, Co F, 10th Cavalry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 80.	0.

This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 28, 1878.

CIRCULAR No. 26.

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of November, is hereby announced. The practice was at the uniform range of 100 yards throughout the Department:

BY REGIMENT.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	10TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 95.13.	91.58.
Per cent. of score, 69.63.	63.07.

BY COMPANY.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. H, 25TH INFANTRY.	Co. G, 8TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	84.61.
Per cent. of score, 76.41.	53.39.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

Best.	*Worst.*
Sergeant Patrick McNamara, Co. D, 10th Infantry.	Private James Hunter, Co. I, 24th Infantry
Corporal Benjamin Otten, Co. B, 20th Infantry.	Private Benjamin Davis, Co. G, 25th Infantry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 89.	0.

Each making 89 out of a possible 100.

II. Until further instructions, beginning January 1, 1879, companies throughout the Department will be arranged into two classes, the first class firing at two hundred, the second at one hundred yards range; no man being advanced beyond one hundred yards range until he shall have made, at the preceding month's practice, sixty per cent. of his possible score at that distance.

Reports will be rendered monthly, instead of bi-monthly, as heretofore, a separate blank, for the present, being used for each range, and when no practice is held such fact, with the reason therefor, will be reported by the company commander, through the proper channels, on the last day of the month.

III. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 21, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 1.

Hereafter, before forwarding charges to these headquarters recommending trial by General Court Martial, the commanding officer of the post will state, in an endorsement on the charges, that he, personally, has thoroughly investigated the circumstances of the case, and is of the opinion that the charges and specifications can be substantiated.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 20, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 2.

To obviate the necessity for too frequently disapproving proceedings of courts martial, attention is invited to the following general rules:

Where an offense is a violation of a given article of war, it must be laid under that article.

Garrison courts martial cannot, legally, try offenses—such as violations of the 21st and 39th articles—which, at the discretion of the court, are punishable with death.

The 17th article being mandatory as to sentence, courts are required to adjudge a stoppage of pay (not to exceed one-half the current pay for each month) sufficient to repair any loss sustained by the Government. Confinement, or other corporal punishment, may be imposed at the discretion of the court. Fines and forfeitures go to the support of the Soldiers' Home, and are not authorized under this article.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 22, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 3.

The following, in part from General Orders No. 1, series of 1876, from these headquarters, is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

I. The number of prisoners who escape from the guard-houses in which they are confined, at posts in this Department, renders it necessary that post commanders exercise greater care and vigilance.

II. Hereafter, prisoners sentenced to confinement in military prisons or penitentiaries, or under charges for desertion or similar grave offenses, will not, whilst awaiting transportation or trial, be required or permitted to perform fatigue or police duty outside the guard house. The prison room will be inspected, from time to time, by the post commander, and all prisoners, who are ironed, will be carefully examined, at least twice each day, by the officer of the day or guard, and, at the parade of every relief, by a non-commissioned officer of the guard. Where prison rooms are not secure, prompt requisition for material including wire grating, to make them so, will be forwarded.

III. There are few escapes of prisoners not due to carelessness or neglect, and, in each case, the post commander will make such thorough investigation as will insure the establishment of the responsibility therefor, in order that the person derelict—officer of the day or guard, non-commissioned officer or sentinel—may be held to account. A special report of the result will, at once, be communicated to these headquarters.

IV. The foregoing should be the more rigidly enforced where prisoners, from necessity, are confined in tents, or other places less secure than post guard houses.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 24, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 4.

I. As preliminary to complying with the requirements of General Orders No. 2, current series, Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, relative to sending a team to compete at the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association at Creedmoor, post commanders will select from their commands the best marksmen, as follows:

Fort Clark	8	Fort Stockton	3
Fort Brown	4	Fort Duncan	2
Fort Ringgold	4	San Antonio	2
Fort Davis	4	Fort Griffin	1
Fort Concho	3	San Felipe	1
Fort McKavett	3	San Diego	1
Fort McIntosh	3		

In making these selections, a reasonable expenditure of ammunition—not exceeding fifty rounds per man—for the necessary practice, will be allowed, and the names of those finally selected, with the detailed score of each, made at higher ranges, will be reported to these headquarters within fifteen days after the receipt of this order.

II. For the information of all concerned, the following descriptions, and extracts, from the regulations governing the practice at Creedmoor, for the Military Champion Match, are published:

(DIVIDED INTO TWO STAGES.)

FIRST STAGE.—Open to all members of the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States, or of the National Guard of any State. Each competitor to appear in uniform (full dress or fatigue) worn by the organization of which he is a member. Distances, 200, 500 and 600 yards. Rounds, seven at each distance. Weapon, the authorized military arm of the organization to which the competitor belongs. Position at 200 yards, standing; at 500 and 600 yards, any, with head towards the target. Entrance fee, $2.

1st Prize, cash,	$ 50.
20 Prizes, each, cash, $5,	100.
Total, 21 Prizes, cash,	$150.

SECOND STAGE.—Open to the highest sixty in the first stage. The winner of the first prize in this stage is entitled to the "Championship of the United States of America," for one year. Distances, 800, 900 and 1000 yards. Rounds, seven at each distance. Weapon, military rifles, which may be procured on the range. The rifles will be receipted for when issued, and must be returned before leaving the range. Position, any. Entrance fee, $1.

1st Prize, "The United States Military Championship Gold Medal."
2nd Prize, cash,.....$50.
3rd Prize, cash,..... ..... 25.
Aggregate, 24 Prizes.

TARGETS.

The targets are divided into three classes, and shall be of the following sizes:

1. *Third Class*, to be used at all distances up to, and including, 300 yards—Target, 4x6 feet.

Bull's eye, circular, 8 inches in diameter.
Centre, " 26 " "
Inner, " 46 " "
Outer, remainder of target.

2. *Second Class*, to be used at all distances over 300, to, and including, 600 yards—Target, 6x6 feet.

Bull's eye, circular, 22 inches in diameter.
Centre, " 38 " "
Inner, " 54 " "
Outer, remainder of target.

3. *First Class*, to be used at all distances over 600 yards—Target, 6x12 feet.

Bull's eye, circular, 36 inches in diameter.
Centre, " 54 " "
Inner, square, 6 feet x 6 feet.
Outer, remainder of target.

RIFLES.

* * * In military team matches, (unless otherwise specified), competitors must use the rifle with which the organization to which they belong is armed, at public expense. Filing or altering the sights of such rifles, or of the rifles used by the National Guard, or Regular forces, (except as authorized by the military authorities thereof), or using them in any other way than as originally intended, is prohibited, except that the sliding-bar of the rear sight may be inverted, and lines drawn to mark the centre. Sights may be blackened, but not whitened or colored. Any pad or shoe for the heel of the butt is disallowed.

Minimum pull of trigger, six pounds.

III. The system of marking, scoring, and signaling, is similar to that now in use throughout this department.

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Official:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 5, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 5.

I. The following decision of the Secretary of War, with the correspondence explanatory of it, is published for the guidance of all concerned:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *April* 17, 1879.

To the Commanding General,
Department of Texas.
(Through Hdqrs. Mil. Div. of the Missouri).

Sir:

Referring to your communication of January 22, 1879, transmitting for action, in connection with Section 278, Revised Statutes, the proceedings of a Board of Survey, convened at Fort Clark, Texas, relative to the re-issue of certain rations to detachments of companies A and F, 8th Cavalry, through the order of Lieutenant Colonel W. R. Shafter, 24th Infantry, commanding post, I have the honor to enclose, for your information, copies of endorsements of the Commissary General of Subsistence, * * * to whom your letter was referred, * * * and to inform you that the views of the Commissary General of Subsistence, as contained in the latter, are concurred in by the Secretary of War.

* * * * * *

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

[*First endorsement—on communication, dated April* 27, 1878, *from the Acting Commissary of Subsistence at Fort Duncan, explaining relative to re-issue of certain rations, on the order of Lieutenant Colonel Shafter, as made, in due form, on the ration returns.*]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
WASHINGTON, *May* 3, 1878.

Respectfully referred to the Honorable Secretary of War, with the recommendation that the value of the stores issued be charged to Lieutenant Colonel W. R. Shafter, who ordered the issue, and that these papers be referred to Lieutenant Colonel Shafter, for such further action in the case as he may deem necessary.

The stores lost or stolen were not the property of the United States, and the Subsistence Department was not required to replace them—see in this connection the accompanying copy of a communication from the Adjutant General of the Army, dated April 20, 1870.

If stores are left with a guard, the guard should be held responsible for their care, and, if lost, required to pay for them.

(Signed.) R. MACFEELY,
Commissary General of Subsistence.

* * * * * *

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, *January* 22, 1879.

The Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.
(Through Hdqrs. Mil. Div. of the Missouri).

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, for the action of the proper authorities, in connection with Section 278, Revised Statutes, the proceedings of a Board of Survey, convened at Fort Clark, Texas, relative to the

re-issue of certain rations, to detachments of companies A and F, 8th Cavalry, through the order of Lieutenant Colonel W. R. Shafter, 24th Infantry, commanding post.

Custom, as well as the necessities of the service, require that troops be fed, and when rations issued are lost, by accident, or the casualties of war, I submit that a proper interpretation of the laws provides for new issues.

While the Subsistence Department is relieved from the care of rations issued to a company, the United States controls them—as *public* property in charge of company, or other officers—by retaining, and withholding, parts thereof for special purposes, (the use of post funds, &c.); by compelling sales of savings (General Orders No. 76, Adjutant General's Office, 1875) to the Subsistence Department; by directing Boards of Survey on losses or damages accruing; by retaining them, as it should do, to secure their transportation on the march; and, when the safety of a command, or the contingencies of service, render the course necessary, limiting the issues to half or quarter rations, or other reduced allowance. As a company officer, I have, often, after receiving the company rations, when operating in the field, and remote from supplies, put the men on half or part allowance for periods extending sometimes to three weeks. Moreover, under the 15th Article of War, if an officer should suffer the rations issued to his command, or detachment, to be lost, spoiled, or damaged, he would be liable to punishment.

All this could not hold, if the subsistence was not under the control of the United States.

Therefore, in my opinion, the new idea, that rations lost or stolen are not the property of the United States, will hardly obtain. It cannot well be the guide in the field, in time of war, or on Indian service, for it might lead to starvation, else to desertion or plundering.

Certainly, if the rations be lost, or are rendered unfit to eat, when in charge of the transporting party, or if they be destroyed by a tornado, or hurricane, as has happened in this department, a new issue is unavoidable; otherwise the troops might starve.

Relative to losses under the circumstances recited, I submit that an affidavit, or the certificate of a commissioned officer, (paragraph 1030, Revised Army Regulations, 1863), ought to be a sufficient warrant for the proper officer to direct a new issue.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. O. C. ORD,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
WASHINGTON, *April* 3, 1879.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, with the recommendation that Lieutenant Colonel Shafter be relieved from the charge (made against him under my recommendation of May 3, 1878,) viz: for the value of the stores issued under his orders.

Concerning the within communication of General Ord, and the endorsement of Colonel Mackenzie, upon the proceedings of the Board, and this communication, attention is respectfully invited to the fact that in my endorsement of May 3, I recommended that "the papers in the case be referred to Lieutenant Colonel Shafter for such further action in the case as he may deem necessary."

The further action deemed necessary appears to have been to order a Board of Survey, as was done by Colonel Mackenzie. In making the statement I did in my endorsement of May 3, that "the stores lost or stolen were not the property of the United States, and the Subsistence Department was not required to replace them," I did not intend to decide that the department should not replace them, if it appeared, after proper investigation, that they (although not the property of the United States) were lost through no neglect, or that the person through whose neglect they were lost, could not be discovered or held accountable therefor.

I concur in the opinion so well expressed by the Board of Survey in its proceedings, "that additional rations should be issued to troops under circumstances similar and like those now under consideration." * * *

A perusal of all the papers in this case, will, it is believed, confirm the correctness and propriety of the "rule" set forth by the General of the Army, and approved by the Secretary of War, April 20, 1870, viz: that "after stores are issued, they are in the keeping of the troops, and any loss sustained is theirs. Any other rule would make them careless as to fires, theft, etc."

While this is the "rule" there will occur cases where exceptions must be made, and it has been the custom in this office to pass issues made to replace issued stores lost, destroyed or stolen, when after a proper investigation of the facts in the case, it appeared that there was no neglect on the part of those in whose charge they were.

Although it is believed that subsistence stores cease to be the property of the United States as soon as issued, it is submitted that the United States may become responsible for their safe keeping in transit, or in store, and, as a common carrier, or custodian of the stores, responsible for their loss or damage, and, therefore, be required to replace those lost, destroyed, stolen, or damaged; but before this is done, the question of loss or damage should be thoroughly investigated and in the manner prescribed for losses, deficiencies, or damage of stores belonging to the Subsistence Department.

[Signed.] R. MACFEELY,
Commissary General of Subsistence.

II. In the future, under the foregoing decision, losses of, or damages to, rations issued to troops, will be acted upon by a board of survey, as though such rations are *public property*, and subject to the requirements of paragraph 1019, Revised Army Regulations, of 1863.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

A. A. General
Hq of the Army
Washington, D.C.

DEC 1879
OFFICE

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 20, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 6.

An annual inspection of the public buildings, at the several stations in this military department, will be made on the 30th of June, next, by the commanding officer, and quartermaster, of each. The quartermaster will, immediately thereafter, submit reports setting forth:

1. The condition of the buildings, and their capacity for officers, men, animals, and stores, and the additions, alterations and repairs that have been made during the fiscal year.

2. The additions, alterations and repairs that are needed for the ensuing year, with plans and estimates in detail.

These reports the commanding officer will examine and forward, promptly, with his views, to these headquarters.

In a great measure, the allowance, to this department, for improvements and repairs, from the appropriation for barracks and quarters, will depend on the prompt and accurate performance of the duty indicated. Of course the allotments, to posts, will be in proportion to the *aggregate* amount received.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 6, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 7.

The following decision, with extracts from correspondence leading to it, in the case of Private *James Jolly*, Co. K, 20th Infantry, who was tried by a Garrison Court Martial, on a charge of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, for saying that he would go and speak to his company commander, after the first sergeant of the company had refused him permission to do so, is published for the future guidance of all concerned.

The sentence: "to forfeit to the United States five dollars of his monthly pay for one month," has been declared illegal by paragraph III, Special Orders No. 115, current series, from these headquarters

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *May* 17, 1879.

Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

General:

In reply to your communication of April 25, 1879, * * * relative to the trial of Private James Jolly, Co. K, 20th Infantry, by Garrison Court Martial, for conduct prejudicial, &c., I have the honor to inform you that the General of the Army decides that there is nothing in the case which would warrant a trial and conviction by a Garrison Court Martial. Every soldier should have the right to speak to his captain, and the 35th Article of War gives him the further right to appeal to the next higher commander, &c. The case should be adjudicated by the Department Commander.

I am, General.
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed.) E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

[*Letter, April* 25, 1879, *from Department Commander, asking for decision by proper authorities.*]

* * * * *

"Referring to the record of the proceedings of the Garrison Court Martial, convened at Fort Brown, Texas, per Special Orders No. 12, current series, Post of Fort Brown, in the case of Private James Jolly, Co. K, 20th Infantry, herewith enclosed, it appears that this soldier, having been refused permission by the first sergeant of the company to speak to his company commander, replied: 'I will go anyway,'—this is made the subject of a charge against Private Jolly.

Can authority be delegated, by a company commander to his first sergeant, to refuse permission to, or prevent, the men of the company from making complaints, or appeals, to the commanding officer of the company?

Before publishing a general order relative to this subject, I prefer that the case be laid before the proper authorities, for a decision, whether a sol-

dier has a right to complain to his captain, without permission of a non-commissioned officer; and, if so, can the complainant be legally tried for stating that he would do so?"

* * * * *

[*Extracts from letter by Department Commander to Headquarters of the Army, December 7, 1875.*]

"I have the honor to call your attention to the cases * * * as set forth in the enclosed copies of reports [from the commanding officers, 10th and 25th regiments of Infantry, relative to certain enlisted men] from which it will be seen that certain company commanders are in the habit of virtually surrendering the control of their men, and the administration of justice, by and through punishment, into the hands of *first sergeants*

It will be readily understood, if the soldier can not lay his grievances before, or appeal to, his company commander, without the permission of his first sergeant, or being accompanied by him or a duty sergeant, that he is, in a great majority of cases, liable to be, practically, without redress, unless at the option of the sergeant. To sanction such a rule would be just as absurd as to require a child to apply to its father, through its nurse.

* * * The enclosed cases are forwarded as examples, and illustrations of an abuse, which I believe to be prevalent in the army, as it exists in other Departments I have commanded.

I have known a case, where a soldier had charges preferred against him for appealing, to the company commander, against the first sergeant, and who would have been tried but for my interference. Judging by their failures to interfere, many regimental and post commanders seem to think company commanders have the right, in this matter, virtually to place the management of their companies in the hands of sergeants.

In the Department of the Platte, I took active measures against this evil; but experience shows me that it is looked on by many officers as a custom of service, and needs the interposition of the highest military authority. It is, certainly, as I have more than once reported, a fruitful source of discontent and desertion. * * * * * * *

I will add that the practice, herein referred to, is not, as might be supposed, confined alone to officers who are desirous of relieving themselves of an irksome duty. Some of them are believed to be brave men and competent officers; but they have adopted a custom which is directly at variance with the spirit of the articles of war and the interests of the service."

* * * * *

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 28, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 8.

Surgeon *Joseph R. Smith*, U. S. Army, having reported at these headquarters, in compliance with paragraph IV, Special Orders No. 114, current series, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, is hereby assigned to duty as Medical Director of the Department—to date from the 25th instant.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 8, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 9.

On future "Bi-Monthly Inspection Reports," under General Orders No. 9, series of 1875, from these headquarters, additional report will be made, as follows:

Of the Medical Department,—Condition of hospital buildings; per centage of sick to the command; whether any epidemic disease has prevailed; what, if any, extra sanitary measures have been enforced during month; how often the medical officer has made the visits required by paragraph 305, Revised Army Regulations, 1863.

Guard House,—Ventilation, police, facilities offered for cleanliness of inmates, and average occupancy by prisoners. Also, if the requirements of General Orders No. 3, current series, from these headquarters, have been met.

Post Bakery,—Character, capacity, condition and management.

Water Supply,—Sufficiency and quality.

Miscellaneous,—The number of inspections made by the commanding officer, under paragraphs 116, and 305, Army Regulations. Also such remarks as may be deemed pertinent, on subjects not covered by headings in the inspection report, or this order.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 18, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 10.

Captain *F. H. Phipps*, Ordnance Department, having reported at these headquarters in compliance with paragraph I, Special Orders No. 248, current series, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, is hereby assigned to duty as Chief Ordnance Officer of the Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 25, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 11.

Second Lieutenant *W. T. Howard*, 2nd Artillery, is hereby appointed and announced as Aide-de-Camp to the Major General (by brevet) Commanding the Department—to take effect from the 1st instant.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

DEC 15 1979

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 8, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 1.]

Officers of, and doing duty in, the Quartermaster's Department in this command will prepare and forward, through their post commanders, to these headquarters, annual estimates of the following described supplies required at their respective posts and depots for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1879, and ending June 30, 1880:

1ST.—FUEL AND FORAGE, including *Straw* for bedding, and *Charcoal.*—This estimate must set forth the number and grade of officers; the number of enlisted men; the number of office, guard and hospital fires; the number and kind of animals, and the allowance in each case, agreeably to the regulations; also, the total quantities required, from which will be deducted the probable quantities on hand July 1, 1879. This estimate should be forwarded in time to reach these headquarters not later than the 1st of February, 1879.

2ND.—CLOTHING, AND CAMP AND GARRISON EQUIPAGE.—This estimate will be made out agreeably to form 48, of the Quartermaster's Department, published in General Orders No. 29, Headquarters of the Army, 1876, and will be prepared and forwarded in accordance with the instructions contained in said orders, and in time to reach these headquarters by the 1st of March, 1879. This annual estimate will not do away with the necessity of the quarterly estimates required by existing orders. With the annual estimates will be furnished a list of serviceable clothing and equipage on hand at each post in excess of the probable wants of the post for the ensuing fiscal year. The list must show the size, or number, of the articles reported in excess of wants.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 10, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 2.]

Hereafter, when paymasters, or other officers, require, for field or other service, camp and garrison equipage—to be taken from the San Antonio Depot and the immediate control of the Depot Quartermaster—the officer receiving the property will give a memorandum receipt for the same.

The foregoing will govern even if the property is for use only for a limited time.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 17, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 3.]

The Secretary of War has decided that a soldier who, under act of March 3, 1875, section 1, (see General Orders No. 64, Adjutant General's Office, 1875), earns, by good conduct, any abatement of his confinement, and *is returned to duty on release from confinement*, is entitled to pay and allowances for the time so earned.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 1, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 4.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of December, is hereby announced.

(RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS).

BY REGIMENT.

Best.	*Worst.*
20TH INFANTRY.	10TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 96.33.	92.17.
Per cent. of score, 70.47.	63.36.

BY COMPANY.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. B, 25TH INFANTRY.	Co. E, 8TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 98.57.	87.64.
Per cent. of score, 76.10.	57.72.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

Best.	*Worst.*
Private J. Bell,	Corporal William Breitweiser,
Co. I, 25th Infantry.	Co. H, 8th Cavalry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	77.77.
Per cent. of score, 96.	4.
24 out of a possible 25.	
Private Webster L. Hatcher,	
Co. D, 8th Cavalry.	
Per cent. of hits, 100.	
Per cent. of score, 94.	
94 out of a possible 100.	

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 4, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 5.]

The following circular, received by reference from the Headquarters of the Army, through official channels, is furnished subordinate commanders for their information and guidance:

"DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
December 23, 1878.

Sir:

Many complaints having, from time to time, reached this office of the absence from their reservations of various bands of Indians, it is deemed necessary that the instructions embraced in circular letter to superintendents and agents, issued under date of December 17, 1874—forbidding the exercise of such roaming propensities, on the part of Indians—should be repeated, with certain modifications.

You are instructed to notify the Indians under your supervision that they must confine their movements wholly within the limits of their respective reservations; that under no pretext must they leave the same without a special permit, in writing, from the agent, approved by this office, and no such permit will be granted except it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the agent and the office that the issuance of the same will inure to the benefit of the applicant or applicants, and will in no event be likely to prove disadvantageous to the Indian service.

The interchange of visits between different parties or bands of Indians residing on reservations widely separated from each other is very objectionable, especially in cases where the route of travel from one reserve to the other necessitates frequent contact with white settlements, or mining districts.

Whenever it shall be deemed either necessary or judicious to grant to Indians a permit of the character above mentioned, an escort of police should accompany them.

You will endeavor, by every means in your power, to impress upon the minds of your Indians the urgent necessity existing for a strict compliance with these instructions, and warn them that without this protection they are liable to be looked upon and treated as hostile Indians, subject to arrest and punishment.

Very respectfully,
[Signed.] E. A. HOYT,
Commissioner."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 5, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 6.]

The following correspondence, in connection with an application from Fort Stockton, Texas, for fresh vegetables, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *January* 16, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant General of the Army, through Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, in connection with Circular No. 6, series of 1877—paragraphs II and VII—from the office of the Commissary General of Subsistence, and letter of April 11, 1876, from the same source, from which I infer that, at certain times, fresh vegetables cannot be supplied, save at the risk of the officers, or troops, desiring them.

I respectfully request a decision as to the correctness of that inference, for future guidance.

* * * * *

[Signed.] E. O. C. ORD,
Brigadier General U. S. Army,
Commanding."

[Telegram.]

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
WASHINGTON, *January* 31, 1879.

Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

Your inference that at certain times fresh vegetables cannot be supplied, save at risk of officers or troops desiring them, under Circular 6, of 1877, and letter of April 11, 1876, from office Commissary General, is correct. Action heretofore taken, under circular and letter referred, is approved by Secretary of War.

[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 12, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 7.]

All agricultural implements and garden seeds which may be on hand at posts in this department—procured under the provisions of paragraph II, General Orders No. 18, Headquarters of the Army, series of 1868—and borne on returns of commissary property, will be disposed of to the companies, &c., from which the requisitions therefor were received.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *February* 18, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 8.]

To secure uniformity in official correspondence in this Department, the attention of District and Post Commanders is invited to General Orders No. 22, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1871, copies of which are herewith transmitted.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 8, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 9.]

Company officers, and others, receiving from the Quartermaster's Department forage in sacks, will secure the sacks from loss, or damage, so that, so far as their condition will admit, they may be again used in the service; and such officers will return sacks of previous issue, or otherwise account for them, to said department.

For each additional issue, quartermasters, at posts, will be held responsible, accordingly.

Officers who receive and issue forage, will take up all grain sacks received by them, and keep an account of all such sacks furnished to company or other officers drawing forage on public account. They will make a report, quarterly, for the Chief Quartermaster of the Department, through their respective post commanders, of the number of sacks issued, the number returned, and the number otherwise accounted for, respectively.

Sacks not returned, on account of being carried off by scouting parties, can be dropped from the officer's return. When destroyed by rats or otherwise, unavoidably, they will be subject to examination by an inspector before being dropped.

Post commanders will see that this order is carried into effect.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 20, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 12.]

The following, from the Adjutant General's Office, is promulgated for the guidance of all concerned:

"The practice of pasting printed labels on letters by way of endorsement has become so extended as to be a serious evil. Not only is the bulk of letters thus unnecessarily enlarged, but the folds of the papers crack and the files are thus mutilated, while but little labor is saved thereby.

Officers of the Adjutant General's Department are respectfully requested to give attention to this matter and to correct it. The mode prescribed in General Orders No. 22, of March 15, 1871, is believed to be the most satisfactory that can be devised."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *March* 26, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 13.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of February, is hereby announced.

(RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.)

BY REGIMENT.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	24TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 95.28.	81.09.
Per cent. of score, 67.22.	51.53.

BY COMPANY.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. H, 25TH INFANTRY.	Co. K, 24TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 99.04.	62.00.
Per cent. of score, 71.04.	34.13.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

Best.	*Worst.*
Private John F. Ball,	Private Charles A. Smith,
Co. F, 25th Infantry.	Co. K, 20th Infantry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 88.	0.
66 out of a possible 75.	
Private Michael Sullivan,	
Co. B, 10th Infantry.	
Per cent. of hits, 100.	
Per cent. of score, 88.	
22 out of a possible 25.	

(RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.)

BY REGIMENT.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	8TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 84.26.	77.21.
Per cent. of score, 53.72.	46.82.

BY COMPANY.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. F, 25TH INFANTRY.	Co. D, 4TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	62.26.
Per cent. of score, 77 50.	40.22.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

Best.	*Worst.*
Private John Pangburn,	Private —— Washington,
Co. H, 20th Infantry.	Co. 1, 24th Infantry.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	0.
Per cent. of score, 84.	0.
21 out of a possible 25.	
Private Thomas Harwood,	
Co. F, 25th Infantry.	
Per cent. of hits, 100.	
Per cent. of score, 82.	
82 out of a possible 100.	

II. In future practice, the advancement of men to higher ranges, or their reversion to lower, is left to the discretion of post commanders. No advance, however, will be made unless sixty per cent. of a possible score has been made at the previous range.

III. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 8, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 14.]

In accordance with General Orders No. 37, current series, Adjutant General's Office, the use of official postage stamps will be discontinued on and after the 1st of May, next. The quarterly report of stamps expended and on hand, prescribed by the circular from these headquarters, dated July 17, 1878, for the quarter ending March 31st, ultimo, will not be made, but in lieu thereof a final report, to include the 30th of April, instant, will be made out, by all officers accountable for official postage stamps, and forwarded to the officer by whom they were supplied. The stamps remaining on hand will accompany the report.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 17, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 15.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.
WASHINGTON, *April* 9, 1879.

Brigadier General E. O. C. Ord,
Commanding Department of Texas.

Sir:

Referring to your communication of February 13th, last, enclosing a telegram received by you, in this city, from the Assistant Adjutant General of your department, relative to commutation of quarters for officers at Fort McIntosh, unprovided with the full allowance of quarters; and inviting attention to the general subject of commutation of quarters, in connection with posts in your department, where the quarters are insufficient and a portion of the officers are furnished with tents: I have the honor to communicate, for your information, the following views of the General of the Army on the subject, in which the Secretary of War concurs:

'No troops in the field are entitled to commutation of quarters, but are provided tents. If Fort McIntosh requires a garrison, larger than the quarters already built, they are necessarily in tents, until quarters can be provided in the regular way.'

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 21, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 16.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *August* 21, 1878.

Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas,

Sir:

With reference to communication of Assistant Surgeon *Ezra Woodruff*, Post Surgeon Fort Davis, Texas, forwarded by your endorsement of the 16th ultimo, in which he requests information whether, under existing regulations, the post hospital is authorized to draw full rations of flour, and bake its own bread, I have the honor to inform you, that according to the request of the Department and Division Chief Commissaries of Subsistence, the communication was submitted to the Secretary of War for decision, who directs me to state, it would seem that General Orders No. 122, of 1874, from this office, was intended to separate the hospital rations from those of the men at the post, and to constitute the savings from them into a hospital fund: the medical officers should have the option to draw full rations of flour, or bread baked in the post bakery. In the latter alternative, the savings on flour should revert to the post fund.

I am sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *April* 30, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 17.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of March, is hereby announced.

(RANGE, ONE HUNDRED YARDS.)

BY REGIMENT.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	24TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 88.07.	86.13.
Per cent. of score, 61.36.	56.18.

BY COMPANY.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. E, 25TH INFANTRY.	Co. C, 24TH INFANTRY.
Per cent. of hits, 99.61.	57.77.
Per cent. of score, 73.07.	31.55.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

Best.	*Worst.*
Corporal William West, Co. F, 10th Infantry.	Private Louis B. Bergin, Battery G, 2nd Artillery.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	20.
Per cent. of score, 85.33.	08.

(RANGE, TWO HUNDRED YARDS.)

BY REGIMENT.

Best.	*Worst.*
25TH INFANTRY.	8TH CAVALRY.
Per cent. of hits, 75.73.	77.79.
Per cent. of score, 50.47.	47.25.

BY COMPANY.

Best.	*Worst.*
Co. E, 24TH INFANTRY.	BATTERY E, 2ND ARTILLERY.
Per cent. of hits, 95.36.	54.81.
Per cent. of score, 61.73.	31.40.

BY INDIVIDUAL.

Best.	*Worst.*
Private William Hale, Co. B, 8th Cavalry.	Private Edward Steward, Co. M, 10th Cavalry.
First Sergeant Clarence F. Brown, Battery E, 2nd Artillery.	Musician Smith Richards, Battery E, 2nd Artillery.
Private Peter W. James, Co. C, 24th Infantry.	Private William McGrath, Battery E, 2nd Artillery.
Per cent. of hits, 100.	Private Martin McGrath, Battery E, 2nd Artillery.
Per cent. of score, 80.	Private L. Allen, Co. K, 24th Infantry.
	Per cent. of hits, 0.
	Per cent. of score, 0.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 14, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 18.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *June* 21, 1878.

To the Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio.

Sir:

The following views and recommendations of this office, relative to quarters for Acting Assistant Surgeons, have been approved by the Secretary of War, by whose direction they are communicated for your information:—

The question now is: Can a 2d Lieutenant cause an Acting Assistant Surgeon to be displaced in his quarters by choosing them himself?

The following points have been settled: 1st. A contract physician (Acting Assistant Surgeon) is entitled to the allowance of quarters of a 1st Lieutenant. 2d. He cannot have choice over a commissioned officer.

The Regulations bearing on the choice of quarters are:—

PAR. 1076 In alloting quarters, officers shall have choice *according to rank*, but the commanding officer may direct the officers to be stationed convenient to their troops.

PAR. 1077. An officer may select quarters occupied by a junior; but having made his choice he must abide by it, and shall not again at the post displace a junior, unless himself displaced by a senior.

Although a contract physician cannot choose quarters over a commissioned officer because he has no rank, yet he is entitled to allowance as a 1st Lieutenant. The allowance of a 2d Lieutenant is the same as that of a 1st Lieutenant.

But it seems but right that by virtue of the assimilated rank assigned him—1st Lieutenant, which is that of an Assistant Surgeon in the Army—he should be entitled to hold his quarters against the choice of a 2d Lieutenant.

If it be practicable, it would settle the question at any post if the commanding officer should, under Paragraph 1076, last clause, assign an allowance of 1st Lieutenant's quarters near the hospital, to be occupied by the Acting Assistant Surgeon and not subject to choice.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 19, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 19.]

In connection with the instructions given in paragraph II, Special Orders No. 10, current series, from these headquarters, relative to the issue, for experimental trial, of the Schofield combination screw-driver, the following is communicated:

Before a Board convened at National Armory, August 10, 1876, Major G. W. Schofield, made the following claims for his combination screw-drivers.

FOR THE INFANTRY SCREW-DRIVER.

That the tool may be used as a—

1st.—Tumbler Punch. } No. 2 only should be used for these purposes.
2d.—Band-Spring Punch. }
3d.—Screw-Driver.
4th.—Main-Spring Vise.
5th.—Hammer.
6th.—That it possesses the advantages of a Tool-Handle.
7th.—That it gives greater purchase or leverage in turning screws.
8th.—That it will not slip from the slits of the screws and wear the screw heads or wood work.
9th.—That it can be carried in the pocket, or in the cartridge box in the place of a cartridge.
10th.—That broken blades can be replaced easily.
11th.—That it will meet any change of form in the arms used by simply substituting blades of proper form.
12th.—That it places in the hands of the soldier a convenient and time-saving tool.

FOR THE CAVALRY SCREW-DRIVER.

That it may be used as a—

1st.—Tumbler Punch.—No. 2 only should be used for this purpose.
2d.—Screw-Driver.
3d.—Main-Spring Vise.
4th.—Wrench for removing Extractor, (from Schofield, and Smith & Wesson revolvers).
5th.—Hammer.
6th.—Hoof-Hook.
7th.—Hoof-Scraper,
8th.—That it possesses the advantages of a Tool-Handle.
9th.—That it gives a greater purchase or leverage in turning screws.
10th.—That it will not slip from the slits in the screws and wear the screw heads or wood work.
11th.—That it can be carried in the pocket, in the carbine cartridge pouch, or in the cartridge loops in place of a cartridge.
12th.—That broken blades can be replaced by new ones at slight cost.
13th.—That it may be adapted to any change of arm by changing form of blades.
14th.—That it saves *two* tools by combining *three* tools in *one*, viz: the Carbine Screw-Driver, Pistol Screw-Driver and Hoof-Hook
15th.—That it places in the hands of the soldier a convenient and time-saving tool.

On the late model the handle of the Infantry Screw-Driver is same as that for Cavalry—forming a Hoof-Hook and Hoof-Scraper.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 20, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 20.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 2, 1879.

[CIRCULAR.]

It having been recommended that in addition to the description of horses and mules given in General Orders No. 17, of 1876, from this office, the following weights be stated as the minimum (except for the half-breed horses of Texas and Southern California), commanders of mounted batteries, Cavalry companies, and all Field officers of Artillery, Infantry, and Cavalry will report their views on the subject to this office:—

	Pounds.
Artillery wheel-horses	1,200
Artillery swing and lead horses	1,100
Cavalry horses	950
Horses for messengers, &c	950
Draft-horses of the Quartermaster's Department	1,200
Wheel-mules	1,200
Swing-mules	1,050
Lead-mules	850

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL SHERMAN:
E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 22, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 21.]

The commanding officers of the several posts in this department, will cause to be prepared and forwarded, without delay, to these headquarters, a list of all interments, made to the present date, in the cemeteries at their respective posts.

In cases where the cemeterial records of an abandoned post are at other post headquarters, a separate list for such abandoned post will be made, and forwarded from the post where the records are deposited.

Where the records of interments at a post are kept in the cemeterial record book, issued from the Quartermaster General's Office, the list herein called for will conform to that record; otherwise the form laid down in General Orders No. 45, Adjutant General's Office, series of 1868, will govern.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 26, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 22.]

The following is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned.

"ORDNANCE OFFICE,
WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, *May* 10, 1879.

Brig. Gen. E. D. Townsend,
Adjutant General, U. S. Army,
In charge of Recruiting Service.

Sir:

Referring to G. O. No. 104, A. G. O. 1876, I have the honor to inform you, that only about forty per cent. of the clothing bags and haversacks, sent out with recruits, have been returned to Watervliet Arsenal.

The limited appropriations, available for the purpose, will not enable this department to fill the large requisitions, made from recruiting depots, unless the return of those issued be enforced.

Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] S. V. BENET,
Brig. Gen'l, Chief of Ordnance.

[1ST ENDORSEMENT.]
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *May* 15, 1879.

Official copy respectfully referred to the Commanding General, Department of Texas, requesting his attention to this matter.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL SHERMAN:
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 104. } HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 14, 1876.

On arrival of recruits at their destination, the clothing-bags and haversacks which they turn in as unnecessary, unsuitable, or unserviceable, will be properly packed and turned over to the Quartermaster's Department for transportation to Watervliet Arsenal, West Troy, New York, for repairs and reissue to recruiting depots.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL SHERMAN:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General."

It is desired that post commanders look to a strict compliance, with the orders from the Headquarters of the Army.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

Adj't General
Head Qrs Army

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 4, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 23.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of April, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100....	1595	94.04	67.96	Twenty-fifth Infantry	Best...
100.....	1120	86.69	57.55	Fourth Cavalry	Worst.
200....	1835	81.36	51.88	Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	Best...
200. ...	6629	79 40	48.78	Eighth Cavalry	Worst.

By Company.

100.....	115	100...	75.47	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry....	Best...
100.....	115	97.30	75.47	Co. I, Twenty-fifth Infantry....	Best...
100.....	60	63.33	34.33	Co. G, Twentieth Infantry..	Worst.
200.....	100	95.00	64.00	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry ...	Best. .
200.....	155	72.25	38.06	Co. K, Twenty-fourth Infantry..	Worst.
*300....	125	79 20	45.92	Co. G, Twenty-fourth Infantry..	Best.
*300....	100	53.00	31.20	Co. G, Eighth Cavalry.	Worst.

By Individual.

100.....	5	100...	92.00	Private Edwin W. Hall, Co. C, 10th Infantry.	Best ...
100.....	5	100 ..	92.00	Private Elijah Smiley, Co. I, 25th Infantry.	Best ...
100.....	20	20.00	08.00	Private Frank P. Hewes, Co. G, 20th Infantry.	Worst.
100.....	5	20.00	08.00	Private Charles Crozine, Co. C, 24th Infantry.	Worst.
200.....	5	100...	88.00	Private Webster L. Hatcher, Co. D, 8th Cavalry.	Best...
200. ...	20	05.00	02.00	Private Louis Schulz, Co. L, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
*300 ...	5	100...	56.00	Musician Anthony Early, Co. G, 24th Infantry.	Best..
*300 ..	15	26.66	16.00	Corporal John Lee, Co. G, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.

* Only 4 companies fired at this range.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 23, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 25.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1879.

To the Commanding General,
Department of Texas.

Sir:

Referring to your endorsement, of the 3rd ultimo, forwarding inspection report of subsistence stores (318 pounds ham) for which Lieutenant *B. M. Custer*, 24th Infantry, Acting Assistant Commissary of Subsistence at Fort Duncan, Texas, was responsible, and requesting the decision of the Department, upon instructions contained in an endorsement of the Commissary General of Subsistence, dated March 28, 1877, (a copy of which is forwarded by you, with the other papers in the case) to the effect that hams must be sold to officers and enlisted men at their actual cost to the Government, and that to insure this the weight of each ham should be marked upon it at the time of purchase, and the hams sold at the marked weight and the Invoice price per pound, or, if sold at the actual weight at time of sale, a sufficient amount added to the invoiced price to make the amount charged equal to the original cost to the United States; I have the honor to inform you that the papers were submitted to the Secretary of War, who considers the instructions of the Commissary General, of March 28, 1877, endorsed on a letter of March 6, 1877, from Lieutenant *F. B. Jones*, then Acting Commissary of Subsistence, at Jackson Barracks, which requires hams to be sold to officers and enlisted men at their actual cost to the United States, as proper and just, and directs that they be enforced.

The papers have been sent to the Commissary General of Subsistence.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL.

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 27, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 26.]

Claims for animals, accidently killed by soldiers while engaged at target practice, have been presented, and as there is no remedy for the claimants, *against the United States*, save through the action of Congress, commanding officers will take care to have all practice conducted under the *immediate* supervision of a commissioned officer, who will be held responsible that near the target, under suitable shelter, an enlisted man is stationed, and provided with a flag; thus to signal when injury to persons or property might result from shooting.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL

Aide-de-Camp

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 7, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 27.]

The following correspondence is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *June* 12, 1879.

To the
Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Under the 38th Article of War, any soldier found drunk on duty "shall suffer such (corporal) punishment as a court martial shall direct."

By the Judge Advocate General, it is held (Digest 15, § 2, et seq.) that "a forfeiture of pay for drunkenness on duty is unauthorized and void."

But I submit the question: Does not the custom of the service sanction a sentence, under the 38th Article, to include a forfeiture of pay, or other punishment?

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. O. C. ORD,
Brigadier General, commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 28, 1879.

Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
San Antonio, Texas.

General:

In reply to your communication of June 12, 1879, requesting information whether a sentence under the 38th Article of War may not include a forfeiture of pay, or other punishment, I have respectfully to inform you that the case having been referred to the Judge Advocate General of the Army, he remarks, as follows: "Ever since the passage of the Act of February 18, 1875, by which errors in the Revised Statutes were corrected, and the word 'corporal' was stricken out from Article 38, the punishment of drunkenness on duty by enlisted men has been *at the discretion of the court*. The new edition of the Revised Statutes, though somewhat bewildering, did not modify this article." [See explanation of the system of italics and brackets in the 'Preface.']

I am, General,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 9, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 28.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of May, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100....	1130	90.70	64.49	Twenty-fifth Infantry	Best...
100. ..	380	78.94	51.21	Second Artillery.....	Worst.
200....	1850	81.45	52.51	Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	Best. .
200. ...	3530	80.67	49.91	Twenty-fourth Infantry.....	Worst.
*300 ..	255	71.76	44.00	Twenty-fourth Infantry	Best...
*300 ...	95	56.84	33.47	Eighth Cavalry.....	Worst.

By Company.

100. ..	90	100...	76.22	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry....	Best...
100....	125	66.40	39.84	Battery G. 2nd Artillery.....	Worst.
200....	80	97.50	64.75	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry ...	Best. .
200....	620	63.06	37.22	Co. G, Eighth Cavalry.	Worst.
*300 ..	85	74.11	46.11	Co. C, Twenty-fourth Infantry..	Best. .
*300	95	56.84	33.47	Co. G, 8th Cavalry	Worst.

By Individual.

100. ..	5	100..	96.00	Private Richard Cotton, Co. I, 22nd Infantry.	Best...
100....	5	100 .	96.00	Private Joseph Mathews, Co. I, 22nd Infantry.	Best...
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Private William Beetles, Co. B, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
100. .	5	00.00	00.00	Private William G. Schmid, Co. C, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
100. ..	5	00.00	00.00	Private Samuel Lowden, Co. H, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
100. ..	5	00.00	00.00	Private Jesse C. Young, Co. H, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
200....	5	100..	84.00	Private William B. Hilt, Co. L, 4th Cavalry.	Best. .
200.....	5	00.00	00.00	Sergeant James Meehan, Co. A, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
200. ..	5	00.00	00.00	Private John Fisher, Co. G, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
*300 ..	5	100...	64.00	Sergeant John L. Doram, Co. K, 24th Infantry.	Best. .
*300 ..	20	30.00	15.00	Private Gustav Kork, Co. G, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.

* Only 4 companies fired at this range.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 15, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 29.]

Officers of, and doing duty in, the Quartermaster's Department of this command, will prepare and forward, to these headquarters, through their respective post commanders, without delay, a list of serviceable quartermaster's stores, on hand at their respective posts, in excess of the probable wants of such posts for the current fiscal year. The articles will be arranged in the order in which they appear on the quarterly returns. The sizes and description of iron, nails, rope, tools and other articles, will be set forth in the list.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 22, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 30.]

The empty cases of the *Winchester* and *Lowell* rifle cartridges will, hereafter, be retained by company commanders at target practice, and at other times when practicable, and subsequently turned over, in suitable quantities, to the respective post quartermasters, for transportation to the San Antonio Arsenal. For this transportation, post quartermasters will take advantage of Government trains *en route* to San Antonio.

When delivered to the post quartermaster, the number and kind of empty cases will be reported, by company commanders, to the Chief Ordnance Officer of the Department.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *July* 23, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 31.]

The following is promulgated, to this command, for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"QUARANTINE NOTICE.

From and after the 25th day of July, 1879, no Passengers, Express, Freight, Mails or Sleeping Cars, will be allowed to enter the State of Texas from any point beyond the State lines, until the first day of November, 1879, except under the following restrictions:

FREIGHT.

The affidavit of the consignor of any shipments of Freights from points outside of the State must accompany the Way-Bills, stating that such Freight has not been in any place infected with Yellow Fever since July 1st, 1879, and duplicate affidavit of consignor and affidavit of consignee to same effect, must be presented before the delivery of any such freight.

Any Passengers coming from any point outside the State must be provided with a certificate or passport, signed by the Mayor or Health Officer of the place from whence they come, and sealed with the seal of the town, city or county, stating that such person has not been in any infected place since July 1st, 1879, and Transportation Companies must demand the presentation of same before party can enter above named State. Passengers will also be required to take the usual affidavit before the Deputy Quarantine Officer.

All mails which have been fumigated on their entrance to the State, will be allowed to enter the State of Texas, in accordance to instructions to Border Quarantine Officers.

Sleeping Cars will be allowed to enter the State in accordance with list furnished Border Quarantine Officer.

Freight and Passengers per Steamers direct from New York and other uninfected points, upon complying with past order will not be interfered with.

Notice of extension of time will be given should safety demand it.

R. RUTHERFORD, M. D.
State Health Officer."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

A. A. General
Hdq. of the Army

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 2, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 32.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of June, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100....	1700	93.52	67.45	Twenty-fifth Infantry	Best.
100.....	1740	84.77	55 86	Twenty-fourth Infantry.....	Worst.
200....	1885	87.85	57.31	Tenth Cavalry	Best.
*200....	670	71.79	45.19	Second Artillery.....	Worst.
†300...	15	73.33	37.33	Eighth Cavalry	Best.
†300....	375	63.20	36.05	Twenty-fourth Infantry	Worst.

By Company.

100....	95	100...	74.94	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry .. .	Best.
100....	60	61.66	37.33	Co. A, Twenty-fourth Infantry..	Worst.
200.....	760	93.81	65.86	Co. D, 10th Cavalry	Best.
200....	235	61.70	36 85	Co. D, Twenty-fifth Infantry ...	Worst.
†300 ...	65	71.00	46.15	Co. 1, Twenty-fourth Infantry ..	Best.
†300 ..	50	54.00	30.00	Co. K, Twenty-fourth Infantry.	Worst.

By Individual.

100....	15	100..	96.00	Private Solomon Nutson, Co. F, 25th Infantry.	Best.
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Trumpeter George Ladd, Co. A, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
100....	10	00.00	00.00	Private Charles Hiller, Co. A, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Musician C. Hamilton, Co. A, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Private William Langenberg, Co. A, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
100...	5	00.00	00.00	Private William Beetles, Co. B, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
100....	10	00.00	00.00	Private William Hughes, Co. G, 24th Infantry.	Worst.
200....	5	100..	84.00	Private William Reynolds, Co. 1, 20th Infantry.	Best.
200....	5	00.00	00.00	Private Francis Lorenz, Co. A, 4th Cavalry.	Worst.
200....	15	00.00	00.00	Corporal Wallace Purcell, Co. M, 4th Cavalry.	Worst.
200....	5	00.00	00.00	Private William Benn, Co. A, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
200....	5	00.00	00.00	Private James Black, Co. K, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
†300 ..	15	93.33	54.66	Private Jefferson J. Oaff, Co. 1, 24th Infantry.	Best.
†300...	10	00.00	00.00	Musician Anthony Early, Co. G, 24th Infantry.	Worst.

* Two companies firing.
† Only 5 companies fired at this range.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 23, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 33.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of July, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100.....	1750	94.05	66.92	Twenty-fifth Infantry	Best.
100.....	1320	87.42	56.75	Fourth Cavalry.	Worst.
*200...	225	90.22	56.80	Tenth Cavalry	Best.
*200....	600	68.00	42.26	Second Artillery.....	Worst.
†300....	510	68.23	40.43	Twenty-fourth Infantry	Best.
†300....	120	64.16	37.66	Fourth Cavalry	Worst.

By Company.

100....	175	98.85	72.00	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry	Best.
100.....	130	66.92	41.23	Co. I, Twenty-fourth Infantry ..	Worst.
200.....	90	93.33	62.44	Co. H, Twenty-fifth Infantry ...	Best.
200.....	310	68.38	38 83	Co. I, Twenty-fourth Infantry..	Worst.
†300....	510	68.23	40.43	Co. G, Twenty-fourth Infantry..	Best.
†300 ...	40	52.50	32.50	Co. G, Eighth Cavalry	Worst.

By Individual.

100.....	5	100.	88.00	Private William K. Gordon, Co. 1, 22nd Infantry.	Best.
100.....	5	100...	88.00	Private John Moloney, Co. 1, 22nd Infantry.	Best.
100. ...	5	100..	88.00	Private John Stone, Co. I, 22nd Infantry.	Best.
100. ...	5	100. .	88.00	Private Albert Bryant, Co. A, 25th Infantry.	Best.
100....	20	15.00	07.00	Private Benjamin Carey, Co. 1, 24th Infantry.	Worst.
*200 ..	5	100.	84.00	Private Daniel Cullen, Battery G, 2nd Artillery.	Best.
200.....	5	00.00	00.00	Blacksmith Daniel B. Flynn, Co. D, 4th Cavalry.	Worst.
200. ..	5	00.00	00.00	Private Marion Starnes, Co. M, 4th Cavalry.	Worst.
200.....	10	00.00	00.00	Private Alex. Macnaughton, Co. A, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
†300 ...	15	93.33	64.00	Corporal Eugene Lynes, Co. G, 24th Infantry.	Best.
†300 ..	5	20.00	12.00	Private Elias Hayes, Co. F, 24th Infantry.	Worst.

* Two companies firing.

† Only 10 companies fired at this range.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *August* 26, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 34.]

The following, involving commutation of rations for enlisted men, detailed on duty at department headquarters; the Hospital Stewards, under the Medical Director, and Attending Surgeon, respectively; and for certain Commissary Sergeants, is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 19, 1879.

* * * * *

The application for commutation of rations for enlisted men (detailed) at 75 cents per day is disapproved by the Secretary of War, who also directs that the authority, heretofore granted, for payment of commutation of rations to commissary sergeants on duty at the post and depot of San Antonio, Texas, be, and the same is hereby revoked.

Attention is again invited to Circular Letter of April 20, 1869, as also to Circular from this office of June 1, 1878, and General Orders No. 85, current series, Adjutant General's Office.

(Signed.) E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:
THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General

OFFICIAL.

Aide-de-Camp.

RECEIVED
SEP 15 1879
ADJ'T GEN'L'S OFFICE

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 18, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 35.]

The attention of officers of the Quartermaster's Department, in this command, to whom military supplies transported under contract shall be consigned, is invited to the necessity of *promptly* securing the action of Boards of Survey in all cases where there is loss, damage or deficiency, or where there is delay beyond schedule time in the delivery of such supplies; this with a view of fixing the responsibility for the loss, damage or deficiency, or to determine whether the delay arose from causes beyond the control of the contractor, or not, as provided in such contracts.

One copy of the proceedings of the Board, in each case, should be furnished to the contractor, and attached to the bill of lading. The failure of officers to comply with the conditions of contracts in this particular, causes a delay in the settlement of accounts for the services performed, and deprives the carrier of his earnings.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *September* 20, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 36.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of August, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100. .	2785	92.63	64.38	Twenty-fourth Infantry . .	Best.
100. .	1615	85.75	55.82	Twenty-second Infantry. . ..	Worst.
200. .	3300	87.09	56.23	Twentieth Infantry.	Best.
200....	2285	77.94	48.30	Twenty-fourth Infantry	Worst.
300. .	555	70.81	42.91	Twenty-fourth Infantry.. ...	Best.
300.....	205	65 36	37.26	Fourth Cavalry	Worst.

By Company.

100. .	315	100.	74.41	Co. C, Twenty-fifth Infantry ..	Best.
100. .	85	68.23	43.05	Co. A, Fourth Cavalry. ..	Worst.
200. .	365	93.15	66.35	Co. D, Twenty-fifth Infantry ...	Best.
200.	540	65.37	37 37	Co. H, Eighth Cavalry. ..	Worst.
300. .	205	83.90	59.24	Co. A, Twenty-fourth Infantry.	Best.
300. .	70	48.57	30.00	Co. I, Twenty-fourth Infantry	Worst.

By Individual.

100. .	10	100..	90.00	Private Samuel Johnson, Co. E, 24th Infantry.	Best.
100. .	10	00.00	00.00	Private Joseph Levoney, Co. A, 4th Cavalry.	Worst.
100. .	15	00.00	00 00	Private James Cunningham, Co A, 22nd Infantry.	
200. .	5	100.	84.00	Wagoner John Hawkins, Co. A, 4th Cavalry.	Best.
200....	5	00.00	00.00	Private William H. Myers, Co. H, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
200. .	20	00.00	00.00	Private Samuel Snowden, Co. L, 10th Cavalry.	
200....	5	00.00	00.00	Private Willis Whitworth, Co. K, 25th Infantry.	
300. .	20	95.00	67.00	Sergeant John B. Billows, Co. H, 8th Cavalry.	Best.
300. .	10	20.00	08.00	Sergeant George Parker, Co. G, 24th Infantry.	Worst.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *October* 16, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 37.]

The following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, *September* 23, 1879.

To the Commanding General,
Department of Texas,
(Through Hdqrs. Mil. Div. of the Missouri.)

Sir:

The following endorsements upon a report of an inspection of Fort Brady, Michigan, by Major Richard Arnold, 5th Artillery, Acting Assistant Inspector General, in which he recommends that felt or canvas be used, instead of leather, for straps for clothing-bags, are, by direction of the Secretary of War, furnished for your information and guidance:

WATERVLIET ARSENAL,
WEST TROY, N. Y., *September* 8, 1879.

* * * * * * * *

No leather has been sewed upon haversacks or clothing-bags at this Arsenal since October, 1877. Upon my recommendation, since that date all billets and chapes are made of doubled web. Probably these haversacks were used on the route from Texas, when this regiment (the 10th Infantry) changed stations.

The proper method of washing these articles is not to 'boil' them, but to use a hand-brush with soap and water while the bag is stretched upon a board; afterwards the leather can be carefully cleaned and greased, if necessary, without damage. As all of this pattern of clothing-bags and haversacks (having leather sewed to the cloth) can be properly cleaned for issue to recruits, I would recommend that they be returned to this Arsenal and replaced by the new pattern.

P. V. HAGNER,
Colonel of Ordnance, Commanding.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, *September* 10, 1879.

* * * * * * * *

If these bags are turned in to the Watervliet Arsenal, new ones will be issued to replace them, and similar action will be taken in future in cases of this character.

S. C. LYFORD,
Acting Chief of Ordnance.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed.) E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General."

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry,
Acting Assistant Inspector General,
In charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 6, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 38.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of September, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100....	1555	95.62	68.29	Twenty-fifth Infantry	Best.
100....	1695	84.60	55 55	Twenty-second Infantry.....	Worst.
200....	560	85.00	56.32	Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	Best.
200.....	1165	72.18	43.98	Tenth Cavalry.....	Worst.
300....	765	79.47	49.07	Eighth Cavalry	Best.
300.....	865	73.75	43.74	Twenty-fourth Infantry	Worst.

By Company.

100....	570	95.26	69.50	Co. D, Twenty-fifth Infantry ...	Best.
100....	95	66.31	37.47	Co. F, Tenth Cavalry	Worst.
200.....	105	92.38	64.38	Co. H, Tenth Cavalry.....	Best.
200....	270	60.00	35.03	Co. F, Tenth Cavalry	Worst.
300. ...	345	89.56	57.91	Co. F, Eighth Cavalry.....	Best.
300. ...	35	54.28	32.00	Co. I, Twenty-fourth Infantry ..	Worst.

By Individual.

100. ...	10	100...	88.00	Private Webster L. Hatcher, Co. D, 8th Cavalry.	Best.
100. ..	5	100...	88.00	Sergeant Joseph Claggett, Co. H, 10th Cavalry.	Best.
100. ..	5	100..	88.00	Sergeant Frank Lewis, Co. L, 10th Cavalry.	Best.
100...	10	100...	88.00	Private William Cahill, Co. B, 22nd Infantry.	Best.
100....	5	100...	88.00	Private Frederick Strong, Co. I, 22nd Infantry.	Best.
100 ...	5	100...	88.00	Private Sandy Townes, Co. D, 24th Infantry.	Best.
100. ..	10	00.00	00.00	Private Allen Goldman, Co. F, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
100. ..	10	00.00	00.00	Private Archibald Grey. Co. L, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Private John W. Johnson, Co. M, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
100. ..	5	00.00	00.00	Private Charles Petitt, Co. M, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
200....	5	100...	84.00	Private James Isbell, Co. B, 25th Infanry.	Best.
200....	10	00.00	00.00	Private Peter Elmer, Co. H, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
200.....	10	00.00	00.00	Trumpeter John Lee, Co. F, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
200.....	5	00.00	00.00	Private John Maloney, Co. F, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
200.....	10	00.00	00.00	Private John Donohue, Co. G, 22nd Infantry.	Worst.
300.....	5	100...	76.00	Private John Carswell, Co. F, 8th Cavalry.	Best.
300....	15	40.00	20.00	Private Warran Snow, Co. B, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
300.....	20	45.00	20.00	Private James Taylor, Co. K, 24th Infantry.	Worst.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

By command of Brigadier General Ord:

JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry,
Acting Assistant Inspector General,
In charge.

Official:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *November* 11, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 39.]

I. Paragraph 21, Circular No. 1, Standard Supply Table of the Medical Department, U. S. Army, dated Surgeon General's Office, Washington, D. C., July 1, 1871, is republished for the information of medical officers serving in this department.

"21. Damaged and unserviceable medical and hospital property must be submitted to inspection, lists being made out on forms similar to those used for the condemnation of other military property. It is expected that a medical director will, at least once a year, visit each post in his department, and he will then inspect all unserviceable property submitted to his action."

II. Hereafter, property corresponding to the above description will not be submitted by medical officers to any other Inspector than the medical director, except in the following contingencies:

1st. When the condition of the property is such as to be noxious; where it is a probable source of danger to surrounding property or people, by its being allowed to exist.

2nd. When the medical officer is *ordered*, by competent authority, to submit to another Inspector property for inspection and condemnation.

In this department, it is probable that the medical director will be able to make the inspection alluded to in paragraph 21.

When unserviceable medical property accumulates to such an amount as to cause inconvenience, the fact will be reported to the medical director.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

JOHN S. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel 4th Infantry,
Acting Assistant Inspector General,
In charge.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 2, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 40.]

It has been reported to the Ordnance Department, that the present shape of the "buck-horn" sight is objected to by many officers, particularly by those who were marksmen at Creedmoor, on account of the shadow it casts blurring the sight.

With a view, therefore, of ascertaining the opinions of officers serving in this department, as to the best form of sighting notch for *all* purposes of the service, company commanders are hereby directed, and all others invited, to submit, to these headquarters, their views and recommendations.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 15, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 41.]

Relative to the question whether the provision in the Act of Congress, approved June 23, 1879, requiring that the ten per cent be added to the cost of subsistence stores sold to officers and men, applies to *fresh beef* sold at the post at contract price, the following decision of the Secretary of War is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

* * * * * *

"The ten per centum required by the Act of June 23, 1879, (21 Statutes at large, page 32,) to be added to the cost of subsistence stores sold to officers, 'to cover wastage, transportation and other incidental charges,' is to be added in every instance of such sale, whether or not there may have been any wastage, &c., in the case of any particular article or articles sold. The 'charges' intended by the Act to be *covered* are understood to be the charges upon the stores sold, or kept for sale, *as a whole.*

* * * * * *

The provision of 1879, applies only to stores sold *by the United States*, through his [the Subsistence] Department. I construe this provision in connection with, and as qualifying, sections 1114 and 1115, of the Revised Statutes on the same subject, in which sections it is provided that:—'The officers of the Subsistence Department, shall procure and keep for sale to officers and enlisted men at cost prices, for cash or on credit, such articles as may, from time to time, be designated by the inspectors general of the army. * * Commissioned officers of the army serving in the field may purchase rations for their own use, from any Commissary of Subsistence on credit, at cost prices.'

Thus the price of articles sold to officers or soldiers, *directly by contractors*, under contracts made with them, stipulating for such sale, would not, in my judgment, be affected by the enactment of 1879."

* * * * * *

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 19, 1879.

[CIRCULAR NO. 42.]

Hereafter, post commanders, in forwarding target reports of their commands, will enumerate the companies which have failed to participate in the practice, and state the cause thereof.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *December* 26, 1879.

[CIRCULAR No. 43.]

I. The following recapitulation of Target Practice, in the Department of Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of October, is hereby announced:

By Regiment.

Range. Yards.	*No. of Shots.*	*Per cent of Hits.*	*Per cent of Score.*		*Best and Worst Shots.*
100....	860	94.65	67.97	Second Artillery	Best.
100.....	1525	84.26	55 67	Tenth Cavalry	Worst.
200....	240	95.83	67.75	Second Artillery	Best.
200.....	1345	73.15	44.04	Tenth Cavalry.....	Worst.
300....	905	73.70	43.35	Twenty-fourth Infantry	Best.
300.....	440	66.81	40.09	Eighth Cavalry.....	Worst.

By Company.

100....	575	98.26	73.42	Battery E, 2nd Artillery..	Best.
100.....	205	62.92	35.80	Co. F, 10th Cavalry	Worst.
200.....	80	98.75	74.25	Battery E, 2nd Artillery	Best.
200.....	235	70.63	39.31	Co. 11, 8th Cavalry.....	Worst.
300.....	265	75.47	46.56	Co. B, 8th Cavalry.....	Best.
300.....	110	47.27	27.09	Co. G, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.

By Individual.

100.....	5	100...	88.00	Private Richard Corbett, Co. C, 8th Cavalry.	Best.
100.....	5	00.00	00.00	Private Allen Goldman, Co. F, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Private Albert Jones, Co. L, 10th Cavalry.	Worst.
100....	5	00.00	00.00	Private —— Goodrich, Co. C, 24th Infantry.	Worst.
200.....	10	100...	88.00	Sergeant S. F. Cudworth, Co. H, 20th Infantry.	Best.
200.....	5	00.00	00.00	Private Cornelius Harrington, Co. H, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.
300.. ..	15	93.33	70.66	Private Thomas Carroll, Co. B, 8th Cavalry.	Best.
300.....	5	20.00	12 00	Private Arthur Arston, Co. H, 8th Cavalry.	Worst.

II. This circular will be read to the companies at the first evening parade after receipt.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ORD:

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Aide-de-Camp.

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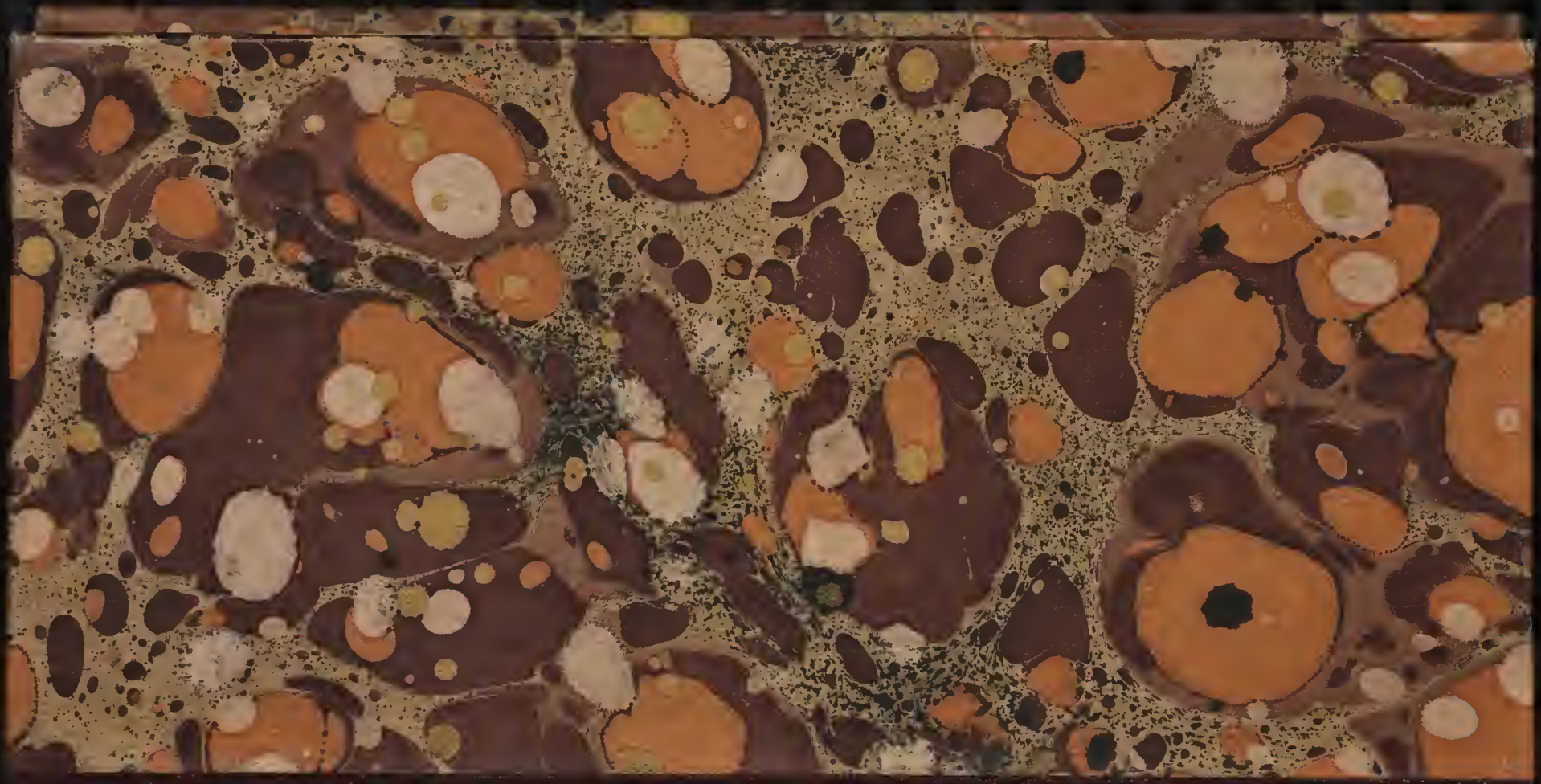
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